

LISTENING
Time: 10 minutes
SUPERSTITIONS

Task 1

You will hear four people talking about superstitions. Read the statements (1-5) below. In boxes 1-5 on your answer sheet write

- T** (**TRUE**) if the statement is true
F (**FALSE**) if the statement is false
NG (**NOT GIVEN**) if the information is not given in the passage

1. Lily says that you should throw some of salt over your right shoulder to stop the bad luck.
2. Mary says that all American planes don't have a row thirteen.
3. According to Anne, a rabbit brings good luck.
4. Americans think a black cat walking in front of you brings you bad luck.
5. If you find a horseshoe in an open field, it'll bring you good luck.

Task 2

Complete the information. Use one word in each space.

1. Lily's mum thinks that if you spill _____ it brings bad luck.
2. Lily never walks under a _____.
3. Mary's mother believes you should always leave a house through the _____ door as you enter.
4. To have a happy marriage it's good luck for _____ to wear something old, something new, something borrowed, and something blue on their wedding day.
5. Catherine says that if you find a horseshoe in an open field, you need to pick it with your _____ hand.

TRANSFER YOUR ANSWERS TO THE ANSWER SHEET!

READING
Time: 30 minutes

Task 1

You are going to read an article in which four people comment on a book they have read recently.

A

Sundance by Teresa Wilson

Kerry:

I really don't know why this book is so popular. I mean, I suppose it is going to appeal to young girls who want danger and romance, but I found this book really tedious. For a start, the characters were really unconvincing. The author went out of her way to add lots of details about the characters, but I found these details really pointless. I thought that some of the facts she presented about the main characters would become significant in some way later in the novel, but they didn't. They were just worthless bits of information. I also was disappointed that, although this book is meant to be about kids at high school, the writer seems to have no recollection at all about what it's like to be 17. The main character thought and acted like a 32-year old. It just wasn't believable. I'm not saying Teresa Wilson is a bad writer. She can obviously string words together and come up with a story that is appealing to a large number of people, but she lacks anything original. It just uses the same sort of language as you can see in many other mediocre novels.

B

Wild Ways by Margery Emerson

Liz:

I have to say that I won't forget this book for a long time. I was hooked from the very first chapter. The devastating story affected me so much that I don't know if I'll ever feel the same again. I was close to tears on several occasions. I've got images in my brain now that I don't think will ever leave me. It's incredibly well-researched and, although it is fiction, is based on shocking real-life events. I learned an awful lot about things that went on that I never knew before. Margaret Emerson has a brilliant way with words and I really felt real empathy towards the characters, although I was sometimes irritated by the choices they made. However, the

parallel story, the part that is set in the present, is not quite so good. I found myself just flicking through that part so that I could get back to 1940s Paris.

C

Orchid by Henry Rathbone

Imogen:

This is a delightful novel full of wonderful imagery, a paints a remarkable picture of life in a distant time and a far-away place. If you're looking to learn about Eastern culture in great detail, then this is probably not the book for you, as the writer skims over most of the more complicated aspects of the country's etiquette. The historical aspects are also not covered in much depth. However, I wonder whether this was the writer's intention. By doing this, he symbolises the superficiality of the girl's life. She, like the book, is beautiful and eager to please, but remains too distant from us, the readers, to teach us much. Although I loved the book and read it in one sitting, the ending was a bit of a disappointment. A story which involves so much turmoil, in a place where the future is uncertain, should not have a happy-ever-after fairy-tale ending.

D

High Hills by Mary Holland

Hannah:

I read this book for a literature class. I know it's a classic, and I did try to like it, but I just didn't get into it. I kept reading, hoping that I'd start to enjoy it, but no such luck. The famous scene out on the moors was definitely the best bit of the book, but even that I found ridiculous when it is clearly supposed to be passionate. As I approached the end of the book, I thought there must be some kind of moral to the story, something that I would learn from the experience of going through seven hundred long pages, but there was nothing worthwhile. I don't know why the literary world sees this book as such a masterpiece. The characters are portrayed as being intelligent, but they do such stupid things! And as for it being a *love* story - marrying someone you don't love and then being abused by them - that doesn't spell love to me.

For each question (11-16) choose the people A-D. The people may be chosen more than once. In boxes 11-16 on your answer sheet write the correct answer. Which person read a book which...

- 11. was set in an Oriental country
- 12. finished in an unrealistic way
- 13. had characters that the reader could sympathise with
- 14. is well-known and was written a long time ago
- 15. contained two stories
- 16. was not set in the past

Task 2

You are going to read an article about a TV series.

Different colours can affect us in many different ways; that's according to Verity Allen. In her new series 'Colour me Healthy', Verity looks at the ways that colours can influence how hard we work and the choices we make. They can even change our emotions and even influence how healthy we are.

'Have you ever noticed how people always use the same colours for the same things?' says Verity. 'Our toothpaste is always white or blue or maybe red. It's never green. Why not? For some reason we think that blue and white is clean, while we think of green products as being a bit disgusting. It's the same for businesses. We respect a company which writes its name in blue or black, but we don't respect one that uses pink or orange. People who design new products can use these ideas to influence what we buy.'

During this four-part series, Verity studies eight different colours, two colours in each programme. She meets people who work in all aspects of the colour industry, from people who design food packets, to people who name the colours of lipsticks. Some of the people she meets clearly have very little scientific knowledge to support their ideas, such as the American 'Colour Doctor' who believes that serious diseases can be cured by the use of coloured lights. However, she also interviews real scientists who are studying the effects of green and red lights on mice, with some surprising results.

Overall, it's an interesting show, and anyone who watches it will probably find out something new. But because Verity is goes out of her way to be polite to everyone she meets on the series, it's up to the viewers to make their own decisions about how much they should believe

Read the questions (17-25) below. In boxes 17-25 on your answer sheet write the correct answer A, B, C or D.

17. What is the writer doing in this text?

- A giving information about how colours influence us
- B reporting what happens in a new television series
- C giving information about a television presenter
- D giving his opinion of a recent television show

18. Which of the following shows the probable content of the four shows?

- A Part 1 – Health; Part 2 – Products and Industry; Part 3 – Emotions; Part 4 – Decisions
- B Part 1 – Blue and Black; Part 2 – Red and Orange; Part 3 – White and Grey; Part 4 – Green and Yellow
- C Part 1 – Meeting Designers; Part 2 – Meeting People who Name Colours; Part 3 – Meeting Doctors; Part 4 – Meeting Scientists
- D Part 1 – Cleaning Products; Part 2 – Make-up; Part 3 – Clothes; Part 4 – Food

19. According to Verity, why is a knowledge of colour important?

- A It can help you to choose the best products.
- B It can give you new ideas.
- C It can help you to change people's minds.
- D It can help you to sell products.

20. Which colour might suit a respectable company, according to Verity?

- A White
- B Pink
- C Blue
- D Orange

21. What professions of the colour industry does Verity explore?

- A The people who name lipsticks
- B The people who design food packets
- C The people from different areas of the colour industry
- D The people who produce toothpaste

22. Which of the following statements about colours IS NOT mentioned in the article?

- A They influence the people's choices
- B They stimulate the people's brain
- C They affect the people's health
- D They change the people's emotions

23. Who does the writer respect least?

- A Verity Allen
- B the people who name lipsticks
- C the 'Colour Doctor'
- D the scientists who work with mice

24. The experiments on mice

- A proved that colours could cure a disease.
- B didn't show any particular results.
- C are planned to be made by scientists.
- D brought interesting results.

25. Which of the following would make a good title for the text?

- A Enjoy it, but don't believe everything.
- B Another great show from Verity Allen! Five Stars!
- C Don't miss this if you work in Business!
- D Watch this programme! It will make you healthy!

TRANSFER YOUR ANSWERS TO THE ANSWER SHEET!

USE OF ENGLISH

Time: 20 minutes

Task 1

Read the text and choose the correct word for each space. For each question mark the correct letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet. The first one has been done as an example (0) for you.

Cave Paintings in Australia

A cave containing (0) ... A 200 paintings was discovered in the Wollemi National Park, Australia, eight years ago. Some of the paintings are (26) least 3,000 years old. (27) is even more surprising is that the cave was found by chance by someone walking in the area. However, the site of the cave was so difficult to reach that it (28) a long time before researchers could visit it.

The exact location of the site has to be (29) secret. This is to (30) the cave from being visited by sightseers who do not (31) how easy it is to (32) the paintings.

The paintings show people and animals, (33) birds, lizards and other Australian animals that can (34) be seen today. According to researchers, (35) its recent discovery, nobody had visited the cave for around 200 years.

0. **A over** **B of** **C up** **D...ahead**
 26. **A in** **B to** **C of** **D at**
 27. **A What** **B Why** **C How** **D Which**
 28. **A finished** **B lasted** **C spent** **D took**
 29. **A remained** **B kept** **C set** **D controlled**
 30. **A prevent** **B miss** **C escape** **D avoid**
 31. **A dream** **B catch** **C realize** **D feel**
 32. **A waste** **B injure** **C damage** **D upset**
 33. **A involving** **B adding** **C consisting** **D including**
 34. **A yet** **B already** **C ever** **D still**
 35. **A until** **B after** **C on** **D by**

Task 2

Pick up from the list a suitable word for each gap. There are some extra words that you don't need to use.

Toad	wolf	lion	bat	kitten	bee	fox	owl	rat
	bear	mule	peacock	bird				

- 36) As blind as a(n)
 37) As wise as a(n)
 38) As ugly as a(n)
 39) As stubborn as a(n)
 40) As proud as a(n)
 41) As free as a(n)
 42) As playful as a(n)
 43) As brave as a(n)
 44) As busy as a(n)
 45) As sly as a(n)

TRANSFER YOUR ANSWERS TO THE ANSWER SHEET

LISTENING

Time: 10 minutes

You will hear a guide giving a tour of Shakespeare's birthplace. You will hear the text twice.

For questions 1-5, complete the sentences below. Write **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR NUMBER** for each answer.

Shakespeare's birthplace

1. The house walls are made of wood and _____, and the house has two floors.
2. Shakespeare married Anne Hathaway in _____.
3. Many famous people have visited Shakespeare's Birthplace and left their _____.
4. In the _____ century, a hall meant a room.
5. Shakespeare's father, John, was a _____.

For questions 6-8, choose **THREE** letters, A-G.

Which **THREE** items inside and outside the house does the guide pay special attention to?

6. _____ A Shakespeare's plays
7. _____ B the windows
8. _____ C the staircase
 D Henley Street
 E the Great Hall
 F wood
 G the garden

For questions 9 and 10 Choose **TWO** letters, A-E.

Which **TWO** facts prove that the house played an extremely important role in Shakespeare's life?

9. _____ A he made gloves at the back of the house
10. _____ B he was born and lived there till his death
 C much of Shakespeare's life took place there
 D his three children were born there
 E many famous people visited the house

TRANSFER YOUR ANSWERS TO THE ANSWER SHEET!

READING

Time: 30 minutes

Task 1

You are going to read an article about an unusual berry which can even have a medical effect. Eight sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences A-I the one which fits each gap (11-17). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Tongue Trickster

Never mind the tongue twister - here's the tongue trickster. Frank Parsons reports on the craze for a strange type of fruit. (0) H It's enough to turn your stomach. (11) _____

I watch as one-by-one they down the drink, tentative at first, and then smiling broadly as they declare, "It tastes just like grandma's lemonade."

Fifty or so people crowd around a table on the rooftop terrace of Larry's small but swish apartment. I edge my way forward and arrive at the table that positively groans with the array of food piled high. (12)_____ My host appears at my shoulder, and says, "Here, have this." This turns out to be a small red berry about the size of a blueberry, but slightly elongated, the shape of a coffee bean.

He looks at the expression on my face. "It's known as the miracle fruit. Just put it in your mouth," he instructs, "and chew it slightly to separate the pulp from its seed." (13)_____ I obey his command and then discreetly spit the remains into my handkerchief while his glance is averted.

"Done?" he asks, turning back to me. I nod. He grabs a glass of the lemon juice from a passing waiter and offers it to me. "Now drink." I take a small sip, and close my eyes. The guests are right. (14)_____

My host states knowingly I have experienced first-hand the phenomenon of the *Synsepalum Dulcificum*, or the Miracle Fruit. This small berry has the amazing effect of causing bitter or sour foods to taste as sweet as sugar candy. (15)_____

When it comes into contact with acidic foods, like vinegar, it starts to behave like a sweetener.

A native fruit of West Africa, the fruit was discovered by western explorers around 1725. (16)_____

Left uncultivated, the miracle fruit grows in bushes reaching six metres in height. (17)_____

Despite being around for centuries it is only in recent years that the miracle fruit has been cultivated as a potential sweetener. There has been some albeit limited interest from the diet food industry. Not only that - the fruit can aid patients receiving medical treatment that may leave an unpleasant taste in the mouth.

Sentences

- A. These range from wedges of fruit, strong cheeses and pickles to plates of Brussel sprouts.
- B. It's like I've been transported back to childhood, sitting on the porch with Grandma and her delicious homemade pop.
- C. According to scientists the result happens because of a protein called miraculin.
- D. Then push it around your mouth like you'd do with a piece of gum for about sixty seconds.
- E. Yet that is what the guests of host, Larry Walters, are given on their arrival at one of his tasting parties in an upmarket district of New York.
- F. Not everyone is a fan of the berry's strange effect, however.
- G. They first noticed its distinctive property when they saw local people chewing the berry before a meal.
- H. Imagine drinking a glass of pure, freshly-squeezed lemon juice with nothing added.
- I. It produces crops twice yearly, usually after the rainy season, and has attractive white flowers.

Task 2

You are going to read a magazine article about an international exchange experience. For questions 18-25, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

A lot Can Happen in a Year Abroad

Like many students before her, studying abroad had a profound effect on Sarah Morrison.

As I sat staring out at California's spectacular Big Sur coastline, I felt fortunate to have a sister who had persuaded me to spend a year of my degree abroad. It seems that there are not enough older siblings explaining just how easy it is to take part in an international exchange.

While most universities offer worldwide exchanges, where students swap places with others from all over the world for a semester or a year during their degree, the number and quality on offer, together with the cost and time spent abroad, vary dramatically.

A deciding factor for me in choosing to study at the University of Edinburgh was the fact it offered more than 230 exchange places at overseas universities in the US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India, China, South Korea, Japan, Singapore and South America.

Despite all this choice, I still found that deciding to spend a year abroad was something of a novelty, with most of my friends giving more thought to embracing Edinburgh than packing their bags to leave a city that had only just become their home. Yet, fortified by my sister's advice and a Californian friend who told me I would love the coast, I applied to spend my third year at the University of California, Berkeley – never guessing that this would affect almost every future decision I would make.

From the start of your exchange, you are aware that the time you have in your new country is limited and not to be wasted. Your experience is shaped by a predetermined start and end, which immediately increases the significance of the time in between.

From the first week I arrived, I started to work at The Daily Californian, Berkeley's student newspaper. I moved from an international house with more than 600 students from all over the world into a co-operative house where 60 of us shared responsibility for management of the building. I met people from Calcutta, Cairo and Chile, and learnt that holding on to any stereotypes I might have about Americans would be about as useful as assuming that all European people lived on farms.

The grades I earned at Berkeley didn't actually count towards my degree classification at Edinburgh. However, I studied under a Pulitzer Prize-winning poet, signed up for student-led seminars and took an African American literature class that shaped my dissertation in Edinburgh. Whether I was learning about contemporary poets on a tour of San Francisco or reporting on the President's speech in San Francisco for the next day's newspaper, my stay there enabled me to return to Edinburgh with an increased sense of awareness about what I wanted to gain from my English literature degree.

While the expense might seem like an initial barrier to international exchanges, in reality they can actually save a student money. Visas, health insurance and flights to the chosen country will have to be bought, but a student will usually only be charged 25 to 50 per cent of their home university's annual fees. A student travelling abroad is entitled to a larger student loan, and grants are available at many institutions for students going on an exchange.

Taking part in an exchange may not appeal to all students. You have to research the options independently, apply almost a year before you go away and be aware of the grades required in the first year to qualify for a place on one. Even so, Edinburgh's international exchange officer, Helen Leitch, says: 'If I had a pound for every time that students told me it was the best experience of their life, I would be a very wealthy woman indeed.'

18 One reason Sarah became a student at Edinburgh University was that

- A** she could first study abroad and then move to Edinburgh.
- B** her sister had previously studied at Edinburgh.
- C** she could do part of her studies at a suitable university abroad.
- D** most of the students at Edinburgh spend a year at an overseas university.

19 What did Sarah's friends think about spending a year abroad?

- A** Some of them wanted to study abroad.
- B** All of them stayed in Edinburgh.
- C** Most of them went abroad.
- D** Few of them applied for a foreign university.

20 How did Sarah feel when she went to Berkeley?

- A** She was pleased to find the people were exactly as she had expected.
- B** She knew she wanted to make the most of her stay there.
- C** She wanted to get a job rather than begin studying immediately.
- D** She began to wish her stay there could be a little shorter.

21 What experience did Sarah get from communicating to foreign students?

- A** She agreed with common stereotypes.
- B** She learnt that Europeans lived on farms.
- C** It was not right to hold on to stereotypes.
- D** Many people from Calcutta, Cairo and Chile lived in America.

22 What does Sarah feel she achieved at Berkeley?

- A** She formed a clearer idea of what her long-term aims were.
- B** She took the first steps towards becoming a teacher.
- C** She developed her poetry-writing skills significantly.
- D** She ensured that she would graduate with a first-class degree.

23 What does Sarah say about the cost of an international university exchange?

- A** As a student you can get reduced rates for health insurance.
- B** Your fees may be cut by half for every year of your course.
- C** It can be cheaper overall than studying in your own country.
- D** Taking cheap flights abroad can save you a lot of money.

24 What does 'one' refer to in the last paragraph (underlined)?

- A** an international exchange as part of a university course

- B a research degree at a university in another country
- C a university course that is paid for by the government
- D the first year of a university course in your own country

25 What does Helen Leitch suggest in the final paragraph?

- A Students who do international exchanges often go on to become extremely rich.
- B Most students who've done an international exchange believe it was highly worthwhile.
- C Only students from rich families can afford to do an international exchange.
- D She should be paid a far higher salary for organising international exchanges.

TRANSFER YOUR ANSWERS TO THE ANSWER SHEET

USE OF ENGLISH

Time: 20 minutes

For questions 26 – 35 fill the gaps with *one* word. There is an example (0).

The Breath of Life

Anyone who has (0) *ever* been to a yoga or meditation class will know the enormous benefits of something as simple and natural as breathing. Inhale slowly and steadily, and you can relax your entire body. Stop and focus (26) ___ the flow of (27) ___ breath you (28) ___ in and out, and you can quieten and focus your mind. In (29) ___, positive breathing will help you feel calmer, bring down your blood pressure and increase your mental alertness and energy levels.

(30) ___, breathing is so instinctive that most of the time we're hardly even (31) ___ of it. Of course, that's (32) ___ why it's easy to develop bad habits and why many of us don't do it as well as we (33) ____ . But with a little practice, (34) ___ it right can bring instant health benefits. These (35) ___ feeling more relaxed and being more mentally alert. You may also find that there's an improvement in some physical symptoms.

For questions 36-45, match the items from columns A and B to make idioms and then use them, in their correct form, to complete the sentences below. There is an example (0).

A	B
to blacken	red-handed
to be in someone's	with envy
blue	of the family
to give the green	fingers
the black sheep	one's name
a white	elephant
to see	blood
to be green	black book
red	light
to have green	herrings
to catch someone	red

0. They seem to be trying *to blacken his name*. I wonder what they've got against him?
36. The car we bought last year is _____. It uses a lot of petrol and breaks down again and again.
37. I think there's _____ in her family. Her great-grandmother was a Russian princess.
38. He was _____ stealing money from the cash register.
39. We are _____ because we didn't invite him to our party.
40. He's no friend of mine — it makes me _____ every time I hear his name.
41. She'll _____ when I tell her that I've bought myself a new car.
42. He has always _____, so it is not surprising that they have a beautiful garden.
43. My brother is a lawyer and my sister is a doctor. They say I'm _____ because I decided to be an actor.
44. If the city authorities _____ to the new conservation project, it will begin next year.
45. He is always introducing _____ into the discussion which distract everybody from the main argument.

TRANSFER YOUR ANSWERS TO THE ANSWER SHEET!