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OXFORD
INTERNATIONAL
AQA EXAMINATIONS

INTERNATIONAL GCSE
ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Listening Test Transcript

Wednesday 29 May 2019 07:00 GMT Time allowed: 45 minutes
(including 5 minutes' reading time before the test)

FOR INVIGILATOR'S USE ONLY

The pauses are pre-recorded for this test.

Instructions
This is what you should do for each item.
- After the question number is announced, there will be a pause to allow you to read the instructions and questions.
- Listen carefully to the recording and read the questions again.
- Listen to the recording again, and then answer the questions.
- When the next question is about to start you will hear a bleep.
- You may write at any time during the test.
- Answer the questions in **English**.
- You must answer the questions in the spaces provided. Do not write on blank pages.
- Write neatly and put down **all** the information you are asked to give.
- **You must not ask questions or interrupt during the test**.
- You now have 5 minutes to read through the question paper. You may make notes during this time. You may open your answer book now.
- **The test starts now**.

Once the recording has started, the Invigilator must not pause it at any time as all pauses, including the 5 minutes' reading time, are pre-recorded.

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Questions and answers in **English**.

Task 1

1 **M1** Welcome to the news at 6. Today's headlines: the fires in North London are extinguished. There has been a car crash on the M6 motorway which has blocked three lanes of traffic and has involved four vehicles. Emergency services have been at the scene for two hours already.

2 **F1** Could I book a holiday in August for a couple of weeks? There are five of us – two adults and three children. We would like to visit Italy and prefer to stay in the south as we have been to the north before.

3 **F2** For university, I would like to study Medicine as I want to be a doctor in the future. I need to get top grades to get accepted. Though I'm excelling in Maths and Chemistry, I am currently struggling in Biology and need a tutor.

4 **M2** Tonight's TV schedule on Channel 3. Next up we have the news followed by a special report on climate change at 6.30 instead of the usual soap opera. At 7, it's today's tennis from the Australian Open. Lastly at 8, stay tuned for our Sunday night comedy film.

Task 2

5 **F2** Hi, I'm Anita. How are you and what can I do for you today?

F1 Hi Anita, I'm well thanks. I'm Jo. Please could I have a short trim and a colour?

F2 Of course. Are you new to the area? I've not seen you around here before.

6 **F1** Yes, I moved here two weeks ago as I'm about to start a new job. We live near the park. It's lovely after the city – I prefer it when there is less traffic. I don't know this area though; could you suggest anywhere that's good to visit?

7 **F2** Definitely! On the far side of the park near you is a great cinema. On Main Street, there are some excellent clothes shops and soon there will be a new food market opening. I also recommend the Italian restaurant opposite here for dinner.

8 **F1** Brilliant, thank you! Are there many local events held?

F2 Plenty. Next weekend there is a charity hike at the park near you. Every May, we have a music festival to celebrate the local artists. And we have a book club that meets in the shop next door to here every fortnight.

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Task 3

9 **M1** Good evening and welcome to this week's episode of 'Cooking Well at Home'. In today's show, I'll be cooking some stir fried vegetables, a spicy roast chicken and a five-bean chilli. As we know, a great way to eat healthier whilst looking after our beautiful planet is to eat fruit and vegetables when they're in season.

10 **M1** As we're coming into June now, it is a great time for a whole range of fresh ingredients. I picked these vegetables from my restaurant's garden this morning. Starting with our stir fry, the peas take the shortest cooking time so we will begin cooking with the peppers as they take the longest.

11 **M1** Often many of us choose too much meat instead of fruit and veg. Encouraging kids to eat their greens can be tricky too but it's so important for their health and growth. As we know, the percentage of obese children is rapidly increasing so it's really important we all fill up on the good stuff rather than junk.

12 **M1** Growing your own vegetables is a great way to achieve this as it builds your respect for them. You're much more likely to eat them and appreciate them if you managed to grow them yourself. I love how much more flavour they have compared to shop-bought ones as well.

Task 4

13 **F2** I'm really struggling to find some local part-time work. I am going to have a gap year before heading off to university next year but I need to raise some money before I go. I thought I could work a couple of days a week whilst we're still at college then, if possible, increase my hours once our exams are over. Do you know anywhere that's hiring?

14 **F1** I haven't heard of any vacancies nearby but have you tried looking online? There are plenty of job websites that you can upload your CV onto and you can select what type of work you would like to do. They will then send you daily email updates.

F2 No, I haven't had a proper search. I'll sign up to a couple of those websites then and hopefully there'll be something I'm qualified to do.

15 **F1** I know, there's a new app that I saw online. It's called GapFill and they hire students to help at events or businesses where the work needed is non-skilled based, so it means you can apply for lots of jobs without any experience. The companies hiring just need some extra bodies to complete the work. You can follow them on social media so you can receive notifications when there is work available meaning you can get a job at a moment's notice.

16 **F2** I would really enjoy doing work like that, really different from anything I've done before! So, I could apply for more long-term work on the job websites you first mentioned and then register with the GapFill app to do odd jobs when I've more free time. It seems so much easier to find work nowadays with the internet rather than having to trawl the streets! It seems like my dream to go travelling to South America might become a reality after all! Thank you, Mary – what would I do without you?

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Task 5

17 **M2** Sadly, compared to the 20th Century, nowadays almost 50% of the population live in poverty, trying to manage on less than $2.50 per day for all their basic needs to survive. It's only getting worse; we know that now 1 in every 2 children on the planet are born into poverty. Statistics show that this gap between the poorest and the wealthiest people is only widening.

18 **M2** Unfortunately, by just the age of three, a child living in poverty is already nine months academically behind their wealthier classmates. As their school life continues, this gap only increases and increases and they keep falling behind. They can never catch up on their own. It's important then that our charity supports these children with resources. In schools, we can do this by providing financial support so that more effective resources can be used.

19 **M2** Often these resources can be in the form of a person as well. Many children living in poverty do not always have a strong adult support network and can struggle to manage their emotions in school, which affects their ability. By having an adult in school to help them, results have shown that this has a positive impact by improving their behaviour and grades. It helps them having a regular face they can turn to when life gets tough.

20 **M2** In other instances, our support can be provided through basic materials. Many students struggle with school life. Their family cannot afford items many of us take for granted such as: clothes or school uniform, books to help with homework and even a pen and a pencil. We are currently arranging sponsorship from an electronics company so that we will be able to provide calculators and tablets in the future.

21 **M2** We often find that these children struggle at home to have a good working environment to complete their homework. We are setting up community centres for them to visit after school to complete work and receive support. Often these students benefit from a tutor, which is something our listeners could apply for online if they were interested in our charity. We all know how difficult it can be to get employment; we need to support these children so that they can succeed in school life to provide them with a better future.

END OF SOURCES

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