

Listening.

Task I

1. C, 2. C, 3. C, 4. A, 5. C, 6. C, 7. B, 8. A

You will hear people talking in eight different situations. For questions 1-8, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

1

Schools no longer have queues of kids saying they want to join the choir. It never used to be difficult to get children involved as all primary school children used to learn to sing in class. Unfortunately this practice has declined in recent years, and I'm sure most parents would agree with me about the reason for this. Fewer of today's teachers feel confident to lead the singing, let alone accompany it on a keyboard. If children reach adolescence without having learnt to sing with others with enjoyment and without embarrassment, there's little chance of them ever taking it up.

2

M: So, you've taken to going to evening classes!

F: Yes, I thought January was the perfect time to try something new; change things I wasn't happy with. The course in digital photography sounded ideal because it's so different from my coursework at college, which was overloading me and making me feel anxious.

M: Right.

F: I didn't know then that it would actually look good on my CV and give me an extra thirty credits on top of my degree, which isn't bad for a few hours' work a week. I might even find that when I go on holiday with my friends, I'll be entrusted with taking the photos!

3

Do you find it difficult to follow a recipe in a cookery book? Sam Gordon, the famous cook and writer, will teach you how to cook even if you've never as much as fried an egg. He'll guide you through basic preparation techniques which you'll be able to follow in your own kitchen, step by step, and if you get into trouble, you'll be able to phone the studio live. Sam says he can guarantee that you'll be so enthusiastic about cooking after his lessons that he'll have you dashing out to the nearest book store to buy his recipe collection!

4

F: Did you see the advert on the college noticeboard, about weekend jobs in the kitchens?

M: Yes, but I really wanted something that's related to my studies, you know, that would look good on my CV. Mind you, it would get me out of the house and give me something a bit less serious to do. And, of course, it would help to have the extra money, what with the fees and the books I need this term.

F: I'm lucky not to have that problem. But I like the idea of meeting people: that really sounds fun and I don't think we should be worrying about our career prospects yet.

5

I'm all in favour of the latest government policy to invest in facilities for young people, and I'm really pleased that the tax we pay should be used in that way. What I don't understand is this local opposition to having an Internet cafe, from people who argue that most students have broadband and a laptop, which is just wishful thinking. There are computers in the library. I know, but are they available in the evening? Of course not, and there's no point in extending opening hours - young people want a relaxing environment in the evening, away from books and school.

6

I've just finished my first year and I have some good things to say about the course. I thought it would be all girls on it, but I was surprised to see how many guys there are. I've gained a basic knowledge of the language - Spanish grammar isn't easy, I can tell you. I've been told it all gets more intense from September. I was hoping I'd be thrown in at the deep end, that I'd be fluent by the end of the year. It's disappointing. That won't happen now. Most of my classmates are doing other languages as well, and they're happy with this pace.

7

The Society for the Protection of Forest Wildlife will be holding its monthly meeting in the Town Hall on Saturday. Harry Foster, the director, will be giving a presentation on the latest achievements of the

Society in the preservation of endangered bird species. This is a chance not just for members of the Society but for the general public to hear how the money is being spent. To do its work, the Society relies on financial contributions from the government and also on the generous support of the public who have helped to plant hundreds of new trees to improve the forest habitat.

8

I moved here with my wife and children three months ago, from the city, we wanted a quieter life. But a week after the move I found myself wanting to go back to the place we'd left, thinking, that's it. I'm too old for this, the friends I've got won't bother to come this far to see me. It lasted a few days, and I'm afraid it worried my wife a lot - she'd keep telling me how nice the people next door were, how they'd given us this lovely bunch of flowers, how the kids had already made some friends. She didn't understand it wasn't about that at all.

Task II

9. fan

10. India

11. 4000 (four thousand)

12. neck

13. eyes

14. brown

15. proud

16. water

17. sleep

18 crocodiles

You will hear a radio programme about a bird called a peacock. For questions 9-18, complete the sentences.

In this evening's talk I'm going to be telling you about the peacock, which is one of the world's most spectacular birds and a great favourite in zoos and tourist attractions in many countries. The peacock is best known for its tail, which is huge and brightly coloured and, sort of, stands up behind it. People say that it looks like a fan. When the bird opens and closes this tail, it's a wonderful sight.

There are two main types of peacock, the blue and the green. The green peacock lives in Southeast Asia, in countries such as Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia, whereas the blue peacock originally comes from India. And it's the blue peacock that you are more likely to see in other parts of the world, because it is better able to live in different climates than its green cousin. And it has been kept by humans for many centuries.

In ancient cultures, blue peacocks were kept both because they looked nice and also because they were good to eat. The Ancient Romans certainly had them two thousand years ago, and there is evidence of them in Ancient Egypt three thousand years ago. But it is thought that the first culture to keep the birds were the Mesopotamians, who lived four thousand years ago.

Now, as I said earlier, the blue peacock is spectacular to look at. The bird has a long thin neck and a very small head on a big body and looks a bit like a turkey. It's only when it opens its tail that you realise how beautiful it is. The tail, which stands up behind the bird, grows to a length of over two hundred centimetres and is a wonderful shiny bluegreen colour. This tail is covered with large egg-shaped spots which are called 'eyes'. It makes a wonderful pattern and in the sunlight the colours are magnificent, the blues, greens and blacks turning to purple, black and gold.

Unfortunately, it is only the male bird that has this tail because the purpose of all this wonderful display is to attract a mate. The female bird, which is actually called the peahen, is brown and rather dull looking compared to her multi-coloured mate. The male walks up and down displaying his tail to impress the female bird. It's such a famous sight that we even find reference to it in different languages. In

English, for example, we have the expression 'as proud as a peacock' to describe men who take a lot of trouble over their appearance.

In the wild, the peacock's natural habitat is the forest, where they live in small family groups. They like to live near water in hilly jungle areas. Although they can fly quite well, they cannot go very fast and they usually only fly for short distances, usually to escape from danger. When danger approaches, they warn each other by making loud shrieking noises. Although they spend most of their time on the ground, peacocks usually sleep in trees. They move into the lower branches in the late afternoon and then gradually move higher up as night falls.

One of the best places in the world to see different types of peacocks is called Peacock Paradise and it is located in Melaka in Malaysia. There you can see both types of bird, and there's also a visitor centre which provides lots of information about peacocks and other similar birds. There's even a pool full of crocodiles to watch if you need a change from birds! If you get the chance to go, it's certainly worth a visit.

Task III

19: SHE HAVE TO

20: ABOUT TO HAVE HER

21: FAILED TO COMPLETE

22: GET ON WELL

23: FIVE YEARS AGO WHEN | FIVE YEARS AGO THAT

24: REGRET NOT GOING | REGRET NOT HAVING GONE

25: TOO PATIENT TO | TOO PATIENT TO EVER

Task IV

26 (CIVILISATION) ... culture and **civilisation**. The Egyptians, Greeks and Romans wrote on "papyrus" ...

27 (CARRIER) ... most important **carrier** of information in the past. It was only with increasing paper ...

28 (KNOWLEDGE) ... the transfer of **knowledge** education and information to a larger portion

29 (SOCIETY) ... portion of **society** became possible. With paper emperors were able to administrate ...

30 (VALUABLE) ... paper was a **valuable** product, and paper making an art - an art that was often kept ...

31 (ADVANTAGES) ... the outstanding **advantages** of the product. Today paper has changed from a rare ...

32 (EDUCATIONAL) ... communication, in **educational** artistic, hygienic, sanitary, and technical applications. Nobody ...

33 (REQUIREMENTS) ... suit the special **requirements** of each application. Graphic paper grades, packaging papers ...

Task V

34 cub

35 butterfly

36 calf

37 fawn, yearling

38 goose

39 pup

40 joey

41 sheep

42 swan

43 froglet, frogling, tadpole, polliwog (головастик)

Task VI

44 C

45 A

46 C

47 C

48 D

49 C

50 B