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PART 1

LISTENING

10 MINUTES

Task 1. Listen to the native English speaker and teacher Conner speaking about living abroad, and decide whether the statements (1–6) are TRUE according to the text you hear, or FALSE.

1. The speaker calls himself an expert on living abroad.	True / False
2. Settling in a new country is fairly daunting.	True / False
3. Nervousness is a negative aspect of moving abroad.	True / False
4. It is advisable not to learn the language of the country	
you're arriving in.	True / False
5. The worst part of moving abroad is separating	
from the people you hold dear.	True / False
6. Having moved to a new country, the speaker	
found it hard to get used to others being late.	True / False

Task 2. Listen to the same monologue and fill in the gaps (7–12) according to the audio. Write only one word.

- 7. "...this one's a no-____: it's not easy to..."
- 8. "...like _____ noise in the background..."

9. "...it can hit you like a _____.."

10. "...it's more like giant _____."

PART 2

READING

30 MINUTES

Read the text below and do the tasks after it.

The hot game on TikTok: Guessing locations on Google Maps

Picture a dirt road. The reddish brown soil in front of you has been packed down by traffic. On the opposite side of the road, wooden stakes fence the border. Stretching into the street, you can see the shadow of a fern that's barely out of frame. It's a nondescript dirt road, the kind you might find anywhere in the world.

"This is very much Brazilian dirt," says Trevor Rainbolt, glancing at just that scene from his computer in Los Angeles. He zooms into a map of the world, mousing over to South America. "Northeast Brazil, probably?" he adds. Rainbolt drops a pin and submits his answer. His guess is roughly 480 kilometers from the exact coordinates, a bit closer toward the Atlantic but still in northeast Brazil. **11**

For a little more than a year, Rainbolt, a 23-year-old online video producer, has been playing GeoGuessr, a trivia game powered by Google Maps. The objective of GeoGuessr is simple: players are placed in a location on Google Maps' Street View, and they're able to navigate around the map to gather clues to guess where exactly they are in the world. The closer a guess is to the actual location, the more points they win.

In his videos, Rainbolt runs through GeoGuessr at breakneck speed, spending five or six seconds on a round. **12**) Rainbolt says his speedruns are just how he plays the game — but it also happens to fit perfectly on TikTok, where attention spans are short. As a finishing touch, Rainbolt plays a recomposition of Vivaldi's "Winter I" in the background to make sure "you're **glued in**."

"I love the irony behind making Google Maps intense," Rainbolt said. "Because it's like 'Oh, this guy is a professional Google Maps player.' I have to **own that**, right?"

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GeoGuessr, the browser game behind Rainbolt's videos, is nearly a decade old. A Swedish software engineer, Anton Wallén, first published the game as a pet project in 2013. **13**) You can also play GeoGuessr free, but only for five minutes at a time. The subscription fees help the company pay Google, which charges them for accessing their maps software, said Daniel Antell, a co-founder and chief executive officer for GeoGuessr. Antell declined to say how much the deal with Google costs, but added the company spends "tens of thousands per month" to keep the site up and running.

Rainbolt doesn't want to be seen as some geography "whiz-kid," though. Roadways, like maps, give some sense of direction. **14**] That's how Rainbolt can guess where he is.

It can be easy to overlook those small details when you first play a game of GeoGuessr, but that's what serious GeoGuessr players study to progress in the game. And when it comes to dirt roads, the color of the soil, the size of the rocks, even the fences that line the road help Rainbolt form "educated guesses".

Rainbolt isn't sure what he'll do with his newfound TikTok fame. He's planning to take it "day-by-day," and absolutely wants to keep making videos **riffing off** GeoGuessr — maybe even some other videos around travel. **15**) …… After more than a year of playing GeoGuessr, he wants to visit Svalbard, an archipelago off the coast of Norway, or travel to Laos to see the limestone peaks in Vang Vieng. There's just one problem: his passport is expired.

Task 3. Put the sentences (A-G) where they should be in the text (11-15). You have two extra sentences.

- **A.** All told, it took him five seconds to identify the approximate location.
- **B.** The paint on the road, the bollards, the various street signs and the telephone poles are different country by country.
- **C.** By comparison, some GeoGuessr players on YouTube will take upward of 30 minutes for a five-round game to get as close as possible to the answer.
- **D.** Nowadays, GeoGuessr is a 30-person company based in Stockholm, supported by a subset of users who pay \$2 a month to play as many games as they want a day.
- **E.** Professional GeoGuessr players so described because they are the best in the world, not because they earn a living doing it say the competitive scene is still nascent but growing rapidly.
- **F.** That said, besides a cruise taken when he was growing up, Rainbolt has never left the U.S.
- **G.** However, Rainbolt is not the best GeoGuessr player; that distinction is often considered to belong to a Dutch teenager who goes by GeoStique, or to a French player known as Blinky.

Task 4. Look at the words in bold in the text. Guess their meanings IN THE CONTEXT. You have two extra meanings.

- **16)** to own something
- **17)** to riff off something
- 18) to be glued in

- A. to admit mistakes
- **B.** to embrace and exhibit something about oneself with confidence
- **C.** to take a new creative direction
- **D.** to use an idea as a basis for a new variation
- **E.** to be unable to stop watching something

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PART 3

USE OF ENGLISH

40 MINUTES

Task 5. For items (19–26) read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of each line to form a new word that fits in the space in the same line.

There is an example at the beginning (0).

The Smiths were an 0) English rock band formed in Manchester in 1982. Their line-up comprised singer Morrissey, guitarist Johnny Marr, bassist Andy Rourke and 19) Mike Joyce. They are regarded as one of the most important acts to emerge from the British 20) music scene of the 1980s.	ENGLAND DRUMS DEPEND
The Smiths signed to the label Rough Trade Records and released their first album in 1984. The Smiths based their songs on the songwriting 21) of Morrissey and Marr. The band's focus on a guitar, bass, and drum sound and a 22) of 1960s rock and post-punk was a 23) of the synth-pop sound that was predominant at the time. Several Smiths singles reached the top 20 of the UK Singles Chart and all their studio albums reached the top five of the UK Albums Chart, including the number-one album "Meat Is Murder". They achieved 24) success in Europe with "The Queen Is Dead" and "Strangeways, Here We Come", both of which entered the top 20 of the European Albums Chart.	PARTNER FUSE REJECT STREAM
Internal 25) led to their breakup in 1987, followed by public lawsuits over royalties. Their live album "Rank" reached the top 10 in Europe. Since the band's dissolution, the members have refused offers to 26) and have all separately stated that the band is finished.	TENSE UNITE

Task 6. For items (27-32) match the words with their definitions. Only one definition is possible.

27.	cabinet	A.	a room or part of a building in which people work
28.	Dutch	B.	a piece of furniture with shelves, cupboards, or drawers, usually used
29.	mayor		for storage
30.	chef	C.	belonging to or relating to the Netherlands
31.	brilliant	D.	belonging to or relating to Denmark
32.	intelligent	E.	a person who is elected to lead the group who governs a town or city

- F. an officer of middle rank in armed forces
- **G.** a skilled and trained cook who works in a hotel or restaurant
- **H.** the person who is in charge of an organization
- I. extremely skilled
- J. a hard, valuable stone prized as a jewel
- K. able to learn and understand things easily
- L. used to describe someone very knowledgeable about art, music, literature, etc.

TRANSFER YOUR ANSWERS TO THE ANSWER SHEET

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Task 7. For questions (33 – 38) guess the word from the rebus or a visual clue.

A word of the week

Language is a living organism and it tends to reflect all the changes that occur in our lives. For example, words regularly appear in language that reflect new phenomena and concepts. Some of them stay with us, and some of them disappear over time. Many major linguistic centers conduct studies on the emergence of new words and even hold polls to identify the word of the week.

Clue	Word/Expression	Clue	Word/Expression
_?_gun	33) <u>?</u> tourism (travel to a warmer country to spend the winter months there in order to avoid the cold weather and higher heating bills in your own country)	B Shower	36) nepo b (the child of an actor, a musician etc. who achieves success because of their famous parent)
b	34) warm <u>?</u> (a place such as a library, museum or other public building where someone can go to get warm in the winter if they cannot afford to heat their home, run as a public service by a town council, charity etc.)		37) director of <u>?</u> <u>impressions</u> (someone who works in an office or hotel and whose job is to welcome and help visitors)
Campbelli Consenses Consenses Consenses Consenses Consenses Consenses	35) <u>?</u> flu (an infectious disease found in children that usually causes red blisters to form on the skin)		38) <u>?</u> amnesia (a condition where people become less able to remember things because they are used to looking everything up on the internet)

Task 8. For questions (39 – 50) take the cross-culture quiz choosing the appropriate variants.

39) The UK is a republic.	True / False	45) Eating with your hands is considered impolite in the USA.	True / False
40) What is the name of the UK flag?	A. The Jolly RogerB. The Union JackC. The St George	46) Which of these would be inappropriate to take as a gift to someone's home?	A. CashB. PlantC. Food
41) Which value do you think British business culture places most priority on?	A. PragmatismB. PatienceC. Perfection	47) Which of these are taboo in public?	A. Talking loudlyB. Showing affectionC. Spitting
42) If looking for a topic to spark conversation, which would work best in the UK?	A. PoliticsB. CricketC. Weather	48) What is the American national anthem called?	 A. Star-Spangled Banner B. Star-Mangled Spanner C. Star-Lighted Anthem
43) At what position of the clock should the knife and fork be placed when a dinner guest has finished their meal?	A. 12.30B. 3.30C. 6.30	49) Which value do you think US business culture prioritises most?	A. AccuracyB. SpeedC. Caution
44) The UK is a monocultural country.	True / False	50) Americans tend to stand close to one another when talking.	True / False

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PART 4

WRITING

45 MINUTES

Task 9. To get 20 points maximum read the message and write a letter of complaint based on it. You are free to include additional information in the letter.

> hey Kate! What's up? Remember that concert I was crazy about? Yk the one that was postponed bc of Covid? Well guess what! It was postponed again and now I found out that it's been cancelled all together. It's such a bummer 2. I wrote to ticket.org and asked for a refund but the service was SO rude!! Whoever answered said it wasn't their problem. I think I'm gonna write a formal letter or smth...

Remember to use the style which is appropriate to such type of letters.

Write (120-150 words)