

# Listening

**Time: 15 minutes**

## **Task 1**

*For items 1–10 listen to the introduction to a radio show about the American entertainer, Liberace, and decide whether the statements (1–10) are **TRUE**, or **FALSE** according to the text you hear. You will hear the text **twice**.*

1. Liberace has been dominating world entertainment for four decades.  
True False
2. Liberace's mother was born in Italy.  
True False
3. Liberace's father occasionally made a living working at a factory.  
True False
4. Liberace's mother considered playing music a useless pastime.  
True False
5. Liberace started playing piano at the age of eight.  
True False
6. Liberace started playing pop music after World War II.  
True False
7. Liberace wasn't a modest person.  
True False
8. Liberace first appeared on the radio in 1952.  
True False
9. Liberace's concerts were famous for a warm atmosphere.  
True False
10. Some people didn't accept Liberace's style and laughed at it.  
True False

## **Task 2**

*For items 11–15 listen to the dialogue. Choose the correct answer to answer questions 11–15. You will hear the text **only once**.*

11. Rika DID NOT give  
someone A. her  
autograph.  
B. win the judo  
competition.  
C. sell books.
12. Rika says that to do judo  
you need A. to be big.  
B. be strong.  
C. maintain balance.
13. Rika started doing judo

- A. to defend herself.
- B. to bully big kids.
- C. to fight with her brother.

**14.** Rika practises the techniques

- A. every day.
- B. two times a week.
- C. every week.

**15.** Rika had a bad injury

- A. a few weeks ago.
- B. a couple of months ago.
- C. a year ago.

<b>Use of English</b>
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**Time: 35 min.**

**Task 1**

*For questions 1 - 10, complete the following text by filling in each gap with a missing word. Use only one word in each space*

**Harrod's**

Charles Henry Harrod established Harrod's (1)\_\_\_\_\_ a family business in 1849 when he bought and re-named an existing grocery store (2)\_\_\_\_\_ Brompton Road in London. The store (3)\_\_\_\_\_ transformed in 1861 when Harrod's son, Charles Digby Harrod, expanded into selling a (4)\_\_\_\_\_ range of goods including fine quality furniture, perfumes, china, and glass. When he retired in 1889, the business was made into a limited company, retaining the famous family name: "Harrod's Stores Limited."

Two years (5)\_\_\_\_\_ this, Harrod's began its transformation into the store that we (6)\_\_\_\_\_ today. The

new Managing Director, Richard Burbidge, bought the surrounding land and developed a much larger store (7) \_\_\_\_\_ 80 departments and a staff of approximately 2000 by 1902.

Harrod's (8) \_\_\_\_\_ larger and larger until 1959 when it was itself taken (9) \_\_\_\_\_ by a Scottish company, The House of Fraser. The store didn't return to private ownership (10) \_\_\_\_\_ 1985.

## Task 2

*Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. Use from three to five words. The number of words is specified in the brackets. Do not use short forms. Please mind both grammar and spelling. There is an example at the beginning (0).*

**Example: 0.** The pool isn't deep enough to swim in.

**too**

The pool (0) **is too shallow to** swim in. (4 words)

11. He suddenly realized that she wasn't being serious.

**dawn on**

It suddenly \_\_\_\_\_ that she wasn't being serious. (3 words)

12. Our teacher would never tolerate rudeness in her classroom.

**for**

Our teacher would \_\_\_\_\_ rudeness in her classroom. (3 words)

13. My friend's mum is French and he's bilingual.

**whose**

My friend, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ bilingual. (5 words)

14. He is only well known in Canada.

**that**

It \_\_\_\_\_ he is well-known. (5 words)

15. The hotel has a lot of excellent leisure facilities.

**few**

The hotel has \_\_\_\_\_ excellent leisure facilities. (3 words)

16. We've already heard too many of your lame excuses.

**more**

We've already heard \_\_\_\_\_ your lame excuses. (4 words)

17. It was wrong of you not to tell me this information.

**kept**

You should not \_\_\_\_\_ me. (5 words)

18. I'm sure he had a talent for spotting a golden opportunity.

**must**

He \_\_\_\_\_ a talent for spotting a golden opportunity. (3 words)

19. It's alleged that William became extremely violent.

**have**

William \_\_\_\_\_ extremely violent. (5 words)

20. I didn't give you a lift, because I didn't know you were coming.

**would**

I \_\_\_\_\_ you a lift if I'd known you were coming. (3 words)

**Task 3**

*This text includes some words used in American English. Write the British English words on the right-hand side. There is an example at the beginning (0).*

<p>It was getting near lunchtime and I needed some (0) <u>gas</u>, so I left the (21) <u>freeway</u> and drove towards the nearest town. There was a petrol station just outside the town and I decided to stop and have a look round. I put the car in a (22) <u>parking lot</u> and took a (23) <u>cab</u> to the centre. It was midday and very hot, so I stopped at a little café with tables on the (24) <u>sidewalk</u>. I started talking to a (25) <u>truck</u> driver, who gave me a history of the town, and afterwards he took me on a guided tour. I made a very nice break.</p>	<p>0. petrol  21. _____  22. _____  23. _____  24. _____  25. _____</p>
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**TRANSFER YOUR ANSWERS TO THE ANSWER SHEET**

## Use of English

Time: 35 min.

### Task 1

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Two years (5) \_\_\_\_\_ this, Harrod's began its transformation into the store that we (6) \_\_\_\_\_ today. The new Managing Director, Richard Burbidge, bought the surrounding land and developed a much larger store (7) \_\_\_\_\_ 80 departments and a staff of approximately 2000 by 1902.

Harrod's (8) \_\_\_\_\_ larger and larger until 1959 when it was itself taken (9) \_\_\_\_\_ by a Scottish company, The House of Fraser. The store didn't return to private ownership (10) \_\_\_\_\_ 1985.

### Task 2

*Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. Use from three to five words. The number of words is specified in the brackets. Do not use short forms. Please mind both grammar and spelling. There is an example at the beginning (0).*

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needed some (0) <u>gas</u> , so I left the (21) <u>freeway</u> and drove towards the nearest town. There was a petrol station just outside the town and I decided to stop and have a look round. I put the car in a (22) <u>parking lot</u> and took a (23) <u>cab</u> to the centre. It was midday and very hot, so I stopped at a little café with tables on the (24) <u>sidewalk</u> . I started talking to a (25) <u>truck</u> driver, who gave me a history of the town, and afterwards he took me on a guided tour. I made a very nice break.	21. _____ 22. _____ 23. _____ 24. _____ 25. _____
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**TRANSFER YOUR ANSWERS TO THE ANSWER SHEET**

## Reading

*Time: 30 minutes*

### Task 1

*Read the text below and answer Questions 1–13. Correct spelling is needed in all answer.*

#### **Phi Phi Island Resort**

The “Phi Phi Island Resort” is located in Phi Phi Leh island in Thailand, between the large island of Phuket and the west Strait of Malacca coast of the mainland. Phi Phi consists of six small islands 46km south of Phuket. Fine sandy beaches give way to soaring limestone cliffs to form spectacular scenery. Add crystal clear water, a refreshing lack of roads, plus a laid-back lifestyle, and it's easy to see why Phi Phi is one of southern Thailand's most popular destinations.

The islands are administratively part of Krabi province. Ko Phi Phi is the largest island of the group, and is the most populated island of the group, although the beaches of the second largest island, Ko Phi Phi Leh are visited by many people as well. The rest of the islands in the group, including Bida Nok, Bida Noi, and Bamboo Island are not much more than large limestone rocks jutting out of the sea. The Islands are reachable by

speedboats or Long-tail boats most often from Krabi Town or from various piers in Phuket Province.

The islands came to worldwide prominence when Ko Phi Phi was used as a location for the 2000 British-American film *The Beach*. This attracted criticism, with claims that the film company had damaged the island's environment, since the producers bulldozed beach areas and planted palm trees to make it resemble description in the book, an accusation the film's makers contest. An increase in tourism was attributed to the film's release, which resulted in increases in waste on the Islands, and more developments in and around the Phi Phi Don Village.

Unlike its larger brother Ko Phi Phi, Phi Phi Leh is a virgin island - it is almost untouched by human civilization. Surrounded by sheer limestone walls dotted with caves and passages the island's shallow blue-green lagoons and coral gardens are a snorkeler's paradise. The island also has two magnificent beaches, Loh Samah and Maya Bay.

The climate on Phi Phi Leh island is influenced by tropical monsoon winds. There are two seasons: the rainy season from May till December and the hot season from January till April. Average temperature ranges between 17–37 degrees Celsius. Average rainfall per year is about 2,231 millimetres, wettest in July and driest in February.

The “Phi Phi Island Resort” is an eco-friendly hotel that aims at providing excellent service without hurting the local environment. This dreamy lodging in Thailand is as environmentally friendly as it gets. The building itself is built with natural materials, such as local stone and wood. Moreover, all utilities (such as cutlery, hygiene items, towels, kitchen utensils) are made of bio-degradable materials.

The pool is created in the local stone quarry, so that the harmony of local landscape was not infringed. Since the water in the pool is replete with natural salts and minerals, there is no need in further disinfection with chlorinated compounds and the pool is absolutely chemical-free.

The hotel provides soaps, gels and creams, which are all natural and organic. Waste is recycled to the garden via a bio-cycle septic system, and “Phi Phi Island Resort” uses hydro-electricity from a Pelton wheel and solar power.

The restaurant values locally sourced products. That's why only locally grown vegetables and fruits along with natural sea products are served. The resort ensures that fishing and croppage don't contravene the local equilibrium of the island.

Diving and snorkeling at Phi Phi Leh Island are excellent. Many dive companies offer all-inclusive trips only in this location. And other little secluded islands are accessible from “Phi Phi Island Resort” by long-tail boats. Visitors can take advantage of the free bike rentals, free shuttle service in an electric vehicle and even green spa, with all organic products.

On the other hand, this beautiful resort combines the seclusion much sought after in Thailand with refinement of a 4.5 star resort. Privacy is certain on 70 tranquil acres of swaying coconut palms, fragrant gardens, and a half-mile of sparkling shore overlooking the crystal Andaman Sea. Spacious and secluded bungalows conform comfortably to the natural surroundings, welcoming stunning coastal vistas and cool sea breezes. Stylish furnishings, gracious hospitality and a private 800 metres stretch of pristine white sand beach lapped by the turquoise waters of the Andaman Sea create an idyllic setting for a green and calm holiday.

## Questions 1-8

Do the following statements agree with the information in the reading text?  
In boxes **1-8** on your answer sheet, write

**TRUE** if the statement agrees with the information  
**FALSE** if the statement contradicts the information  
**NOT GIVEN** if there is no information on this

1. Phi Phi is located 46km south of Phuket.
2. Ko Phi Phi is the largest, though not the most populated island of the group.
3. Islands gained their popularity after Ko Phi Phi was used for a famous film.
4. The increase in tourism had a negative effect on the Ko Phi Phi island.
5. Unlike its larger brother Phi Phi Leh, Ko Phi Phi is a virgin island.
6. There are two seasons on the Phi Phi Leh island: rainy and hot.
7. July is the hottest month on the Phi Phi Leh.
8. The "Phi Phi Island Resort" is very environmentally friendly.

### Questions 9-13

Complete the sentences below.

Write **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** from the passage for each answer.  
Write your answers in boxes **9-13** on your answer sheet.

9. Due to the fact that the pool is rich in natural salts and minerals, there is no need to use \_\_\_\_\_ for further disinfection.
10. The "Phi Phi Island Resort" uses a bio-cycle \_\_\_\_\_ to recycle waste.
11. The restaurant serves only natural \_\_\_\_\_ products.
12. Visitors can take free bike rentals, free shuttle service and even \_\_\_\_\_.
13. Phi Phi Island Resort has a refinement of a 4.5 \_\_\_\_\_.

## TRANSFER ALL YOUR ANSWERS TO YOUR ANSWER SHEET

### Reading

**Time: 30 minutes**

*Read the text below and answer Questions 1–13. Correct spelling is needed in all answer.*

#### **Task 1**

#### **Aphantasia: A life without mental images**

**Close your eyes and imagine walking along a sandy beach and then gazing over the horizon as the Sun rises. How clear is the image that springs to mind?**

Most people can readily conjure images inside their head - known as their mind's eye. But this year scientists have described a condition, aphantasia, in which some people are unable to visualise mental images.

Niel Kenmuir, from Lancaster, has always had a blind mind's eye. He knew he was different even in childhood. "My stepfather, when I couldn't sleep, told me to count sheep,

and he explained what he meant, I tried to do it and I couldn't," he says. "I couldn't see any sheep jumping over fences, there was nothing to count."

Our memories are often tied up in images, think back to a wedding or first day at school. As a result, Niel admits, some aspects of his memory are "terrible", but he is very good at remembering facts. And, like others with aphantasia, he struggles to recognise faces. Yet he does not see aphantasia as a disability, but simply a different way of experiencing life.

### **Mind's eye blind**

Ironically, Niel now works in a bookshop, although he largely sticks to the non-fiction aisles. His condition begs the question what is going on inside his picture-less mind. I asked him what happens when he tries to picture his fiancée. "This is the hardest thing to describe, what happens in my head when I think about things," he says. "When I think about my fiancée there is no image, but I am definitely thinking about her, I know today she has her hair up at the back, she's brunette. But I'm not describing an image I am looking at, I'm remembering features about her, that's the strangest thing and maybe that is a source of some regret."

The response from his mates is a very sympathetic: "You're weird." But while Niel is very relaxed about his inability to picture things, it is often a cause of distress for others. One person who took part in a study into aphantasia said he had started to feel "isolated" and "alone" after discovering that other people could see images in their heads. Being unable to reminisce about his mother years after her death led to him being "extremely distraught".

### **The super-visualiser**

At the other end of the spectrum is children's book illustrator, Lauren Beard, whose work on the Fairytale Hairdresser series will be familiar to many six-year-olds. Her career relies on the vivid images that leap into her mind's eye when she reads text from her author. When I met her in her box-room studio in Manchester, she was working on a dramatic scene in the next book. The text describes a baby perilously climbing onto a chandelier.

"Straightaway I can visualise this grand glass chandelier in some sort of French kind of ballroom, and the little baby just swinging off it and really heavy thick curtains," she says. "I think I have a strong imagination, so I can create the world and then keep adding to it so it gets sort of bigger and bigger in my mind and the characters too they sort of evolve. I couldn't really imagine what it's like to not imagine, I think it must be a bit of a shame really."

Not many people have mental imagery as vibrant as Lauren or as blank as Niel. They are the two extremes of visualisation. Adam Zeman, a professor of cognitive and behavioural neurology, wants to compare the lives and experiences of people with aphantasia and its polar-opposite hyperphantasia. His team, based at the University of Exeter, coined the term aphantasia this year in a study in the journal Cortex.

Prof Zeman tells the BBC: "People who have contacted us say they are really delighted that this has been recognised and has been given a name, because they have been trying to explain to people for years that there is this oddity that they find hard to convey to others." How we imagine is clearly very subjective - one person's vivid scene could be another's grainy picture. But Prof Zeman is certain that aphantasia is real. People often report being able to dream in pictures, and there have been reported cases of people losing the ability to think in images after a brain injury.

He is adamant that aphantasia is "not a disorder" and says it may affect up to one in 50 people. But he adds: "I think it makes quite an important difference to their experience of life because many of us spend our lives with imagery hovering somewhere in the mind's eye which we inspect from time to time, it's a variability of human experience."

### Questions 1-8

Do the following statements agree with the information in the reading text?

In boxes **1-8** on your answer sheet, write

**TRUE** if the statement agrees with the information

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**NOT GIVEN** if there is no information on this

1. Aphantasia is a condition, which describes people, for whom it is hard to visualise mental images.
2. Niel Kenmuir was unable to count sheep in his head.
3. People with aphantasia struggle to remember personal traits and clothes of different people.
4. Niel regrets that he cannot portray an image of his fiancée in his mind
5. Inability to picture things in someone's head is often a cause of distress for a person
6. All people with aphantasia start to feel 'isolated' or 'alone' at some point of their lives
7. Lauren Beard's career depends on her imagination.
8. The author met Lauren Beard when she was working on a comedy scene in her next book.

### Questions 9-13

Complete the sentences below.

Write **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** from the passage for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes **9-13** on your answer sheet.

9. Only a small fraction of people have imagination as \_\_\_\_\_ as Lauren does.
10. Hyperphantasia is \_\_\_\_\_ to aphantasia.
11. There are a lot of subjectivity in comparing people's imagination - somebody's vivid scene could be another person's \_\_\_\_\_.
12. Prof Zeman is \_\_\_\_\_ that aphantasia is not an illness.
13. Many people spend their lives with \_\_\_\_\_ somewhere in the mind's eye.

**TRANSFER ALL YOUR ANSWERS TO YOUR ANSWER SHEET**

Reading

**Time: 30 minutes**

**Task 1**

*Read the text below and answer Questions 1-13. Correct spelling is needed in all answer.*

**The Cause of the Next Ice Age?**

If you look at a globe, you'll see that the latitude of much of Europe and Scandinavia is the same as that of Alaska and permafrost-locked parts of northern Canada and central Siberia. Yet Europe has a climate more similar to that of the United States than northern Canada or Siberia. It turns out that our warmth is the result of ocean currents that bring warm surface water up from the equator into northern regions that would otherwise be so cold that even in summer they'd be covered with ice. The current of greatest concern is often referred to as the Great Conveyor Belt which includes what we call the Gulf Stream. This is mostly driven by the force created by differences in water temperatures and salinity. The North Atlantic Ocean is saltier and colder than the Pacific. As a result, the warm water of the Great Conveyor Belt evaporates out of the North Atlantic leaving behind saltier waters which are cooled by the cold continental winds off the northern parts of North America. Salty, cool waters settle to the bottom of the sea, most at a point a few hundred kilometres south of the southern tip of Greenland, producing a whirlpool of falling water that's 5 to 10 miles across. This falling column of cold, salt-laden water pours itself to the bottom of the Atlantic, where it forms a great undersea river forty times larger than all the rivers on land combined, flowing south down to and around the southern tip of Africa where it finally reaches the Pacific. Amazingly, the water is so deep and so dense that it often doesn't surface in the Pacific for as much as a thousand years after it first sank in the North Atlantic off the coast of Greenland.

The out-flowing undersea river of cold, salty water makes the level of the Atlantic fractionally lower than that of the Pacific, drawing in a strong surface current of warm, fresher water from the Pacific to replace the outflow of the undersea river. This warmer, fresher water slides up through the South Atlantic, loops around North America where it's known as the Gulf Stream, and ends up off the coast of Europe. By the time it arrives near Greenland, it's cooled off and evaporated enough water to become cold and salty and sink to the ocean floor, providing a continuous feed for that deep-sea river flowing to the Pacific. These two flows - warm, fresher water in from the Pacific, which then grows salty and cools and sinks to form an exiting deep sea river - are known as the Great Conveyor Belt.

Prior to the last decades it was thought that the periods between glaciations and warmer times in North America, Europe, and North Asia were gradual. We knew from the fossil record that the Great Ice Age period began a few million years ago and during those years there were times when for hundreds or thousands of years North America, Europe, and Siberia were covered with thick sheets of ice year round. In between these icy times, there were periods when the glaciers thawed, bare land was exposed, forests grew, and land animals (including early humans) moved into these northern regions. Most scientists figured the transition time from icy to warm was gradual, lasting dozens to hundreds of years and nobody was sure exactly what had caused it. Recently however, scientists have been shocked to discover that the transitions from ice age-like weather to contemporary-type weather usually took only two or three years. Something was flipping the weather of the planet back and forth with a rapidity that was startling.

What brought on this sudden effect was that the warm-water currents of the Great Conveyor Belt had shut down. Once the Gulf Stream was no longer flowing, it only took a year or three for the last of the residual heat held in the North Atlantic Ocean to dissipate into the air over Europe and then there was no more warmth to moderate the northern latitudes. When the summer stopped in the north, the rains stopped around the equator. At the same time that Europe was plunged into an Ice Age, the Middle East and Africa were

ravaged by drought and wind-driven firestorms. If the Great Conveyor Belt, which includes the Gulf Stream, were to stop flowing today, the result would be sudden and dramatic. Winter would set in for the eastern half of North America and all of Europe and Siberia and never go away. Within three years, those regions would become uninhabitable and nearly two billion humans would starve, freeze to death or have to relocate. Civilization as we know it probably couldn't withstand the impact of such a crushing blow.

Most scientists involved in research on this topic agree that the culprit is global warming, which melts the icebergs on Greenland and the Arctic icepack and thus flushes cold, fresh water down into the Greenland Sea from the north diluting its salinity. When a critical threshold is reached, the climate will suddenly switch to an ice age that could last minimally 700 or so years, and maximally 100,000 years. No one knows when it will happen but what's almost certain is that if nothing is done about global warming, it will happen sooner rather than later.

### Questions 1-5

Read the passage and look at the statements below.

In boxes 1 - 5 on your answer sheet write:

TRUE if the statement is true

FALSE if the statement is false

NOT GIVEN if the information is not given in the text

1 Another name for the Great Conveyor Belt is the better known name the Gulf Stream.

2 The surface of the Atlantic Ocean is higher than the surface of the Pacific Ocean.

3 The last time the Great Conveyor Belt shut down it caused the deaths of thousands.

4 The arrival of cooler water in the Pacific Ocean affects the weather there too.

5 Global warming has caused the North Atlantic Ocean to become less salty.

### Questions 6 - 10

Complete each of the following statements (Questions 6 - 10) with words taken from Reading Passage.

Write NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS for each answer. Write your answers in boxes 6 - 10 on your answer sheet.

6. The author points out the reason why Europe is not \_\_\_\_\_ like other countries of the same latitude. 7. The author likens the north – south flow of the Great Conveyor Belt to a \_\_\_\_\_. 8. Scientist can date the last great Ice Age thanks to \_\_\_\_\_. 9 Lately there has been a \_\_\_\_\_ discovery that the change from today's temperate style weather to ice age weather was in fact a fast change. 10. The author identifies the \_\_\_\_\_ for the possible shutting down of the Great Conveyor Belt as being global warming.

### Questions 11 - 13

Using NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS OR A NUMBER from the reading passage, answer the following questions. Write your answers in boxes 11 - 13 on your answer sheet.

11. What do the sinking waters create on the surface of the North Atlantic Ocean?

12. How long can it take for water leaving the surface near Greenland to travel through the Great Conveyor Belt to the surface of the Pacific Ocean?

13. If the Great Conveyor Belt stopped, what would be the maximum amount of time for it



to stop heating northern Europe?

**TRANSFER ALL YOUR ANSWERS TO YOUR ANSWER SHEET**

**WRITING**

**Time: 60 minutes**

“The **Monkey’s Paw**” is a suspenseful and chilling short story written by an English author W.W. Jacobs in 1902. In the story three wishes are granted to the owner of the monkey's paw (a talisman), but the wishes come with an enormous price for interfering with [fate](#). Here is a fragment.



W.W. Jacobs

(8 September 1863 – 1 September  
1943, London, England)

*...The matches fell from his hand. He stood motionless, his breath suspended until the knock at the door was repeated. Then he turned and went back to his room, and closed the door behind him. A third knock sounded through the house.....*

The fragment of the story begins in *medias res* which means it begins in the middle of the events. What events **precede** the given moment and what **comes after** it?

Write your variant of a **short thrilling story** related to the given situation. Your story must involve a **mystery**. Let it make the **reader’s hair stand on end** before it’s **finally clear that there’s nothing to be scared of**. Your story must include Jacob’s quotation "Be careful what you wish for, you may receive it". Don’t forget to write a heading/title to your story. Good luck!

Write **200–250 words**.

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