

LISTENING

Time: 10 minutes

Maximum score – 30

You will hear an interview with Gerald Parker from the local Zoo. For questions 1-10 choose the best answer (A, B, C or D), for questions 11-15 choose the best option (A or B). You will hear the text twice.

1. What does Richard tell the listeners about Gerald Parker?

- A. Gerald has come to the show for the first time.
- B. Gerald has come to talk about the programme for taking care of the animals.
- C. Richard learnt a lot from him about the plant kingdom.
- D. The listeners have written asking to invite Gerald on the show.

2. What is the purpose of the animal adoption scheme?

- A. Help animals feel natural in the Zoo.
- B. Take care of the cubs in the Zoo.
- C. Find money for keeping animals in the Zoo.
- D. Find proper reserve for animals to live.

3. What was the reason for starting the animal adoption scheme?

- A. The Zoo couldn't provide the animals with food.
- B. The Zoo wasn't in good working order for some time.
- C. It was intended to maintain the Zoo as well as good standards of living for animals.
- D. The Zoo wanted to attract attention to their problems.

- 4. The animal adoption scheme**
- A. has been started quite recently.
 - B. hasn't been successful.
 - C. didn't have a good response.
 - D. needs over 100 applicants.
- 5. How is the £30 adoption fee used?**
- A. It is all spent on the animals.
 - B. The whole fee pays for all the animal's food and medicine.
 - C. A part of the fee pays for the animal's food and medicine.
 - D. It pays for most of the administration cost of the scheme.
- 6. What does the radio presenter think about the cost of the scheme?**
- A. the scheme costs too much money.
 - B. the animals aren't worth £30.
 - C. £27 is a reasonable price.
 - D. £30 is a reasonable price.
- 7. What does a "foster parent" for animals do?**
- A. Gives instructions regarding the process of keeping animals.
 - B. Pays for the temporary care of an animal.
 - C. Gives permanent accommodation to an animal.
 - D. Promotes the growth or development of an animal.
- 8. What do you get every month after the adoption of an animal?**
- A. Information about the animal.
 - B. A free T-shirt.
 - C. An adoption certificate.
 - D. A coupon.

- 9. When do adopters receive the certificate and a T-shirt?**
- A. Monthly.
 - B. When they join.
 - C. After one year.
 - D. On the animal's birthday.
- 10. What should you do if you want to adopt an animal?**
- A. You can choose a foster animal on the Internet.
 - B. You should fill out a special form.
 - C. You can call the radio station.
 - D. You can register on the zoo website.
- 11. Many of the listeners of the programme had already known the details about the animal adoption scheme before the programme.**
- A. True
 - B. False
- 12. The administration of the Zoo experienced an extended period of financial difficulties.**
- A. True
 - B. False
- 13. People actively supported the “Animal adoption” scheme.**
- A. True
 - B. False
- 14. There were only 100 applicants willing to participate in the programme.**
- A. True
 - B. False
- 15. The presenter of the programme says that it is difficult to take part in the “Animal Adoption” scheme.**
- A. True
 - B. False

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet

Reading

Time: 30 minutes
Maximum score – 30

Task 1. Read the given text and decide if each statement is True, False, or Not Stated according to the text. For questions 1-7 choose the best option (A, B, or C).

Indoor Air Pollution

Air inside buildings can be dirty, and this problem started long ago. In caves, people used wood fires to stay warm and cook, but the smoke was very bad for health. Today, indoor air pollution is a bigger problem. Modern homes and offices use many chemicals, and buildings are much tighter than before the 1970s. This dirty air can cause lung problems, breathing infections, asthma and so on.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) says Americans spend up to 90% of their time inside homes, offices, or schools. EPA says indoor air pollution is one of the top five health risks from the environment. Rules about air quality are still new and debated, and they focus on some pollutants like radon, lead, and asbestos. Harmful air pollutants fall into ten groups, each with different health effects. If people are around these for a long time without fresh air from outside, it can be very dangerous.

Indoor air pollution comes from almost 1,000 substances. These include substances that burn, like gas, coal, wood, or tobacco products, and their respective systems like heaters and stoves; living things like mold or mites; cleaning chemicals and building materials like carpets, furniture, or paint; pets; and outdoor sources like radon gas, pesticides, or dirty outside air.

If you don't check and fix air quality in a home or office, it can cause "building sickness." People living there may get sick often. Better building and energy saving

help people spend less on heating and cooling, but there's a problem. These tight homes and offices can't "breathe" well because they use chemicals like sealants, insulation, and plastic barriers. Air from the outdoor environment is unable to pass in and out through gaps, cracks, window frames, or poor insulation. Consequently, indoor pollutants once held in check by drafty homes and businesses are one of America's most big health risks. These pollutants can cause many issues, like too much mold or allergies.

1. Indoor air pollution is the problem that began with the use of chemicals in buildings after the 1970s.
A. True B. False C. Not stated
2. Indoor air pollution affects people in rural areas more than those in cities.
A. True B. False C. Not stated
3. The number of indoor pollutants has decreased since the 1970s.
A. True B. False C. Not stated
4. "Building sickness" happens when people check air quality regularly.
A. True B. False C. Not stated
5. Energy-efficient buildings save money but can trap pollutants.
A. True B. False C. Not stated
6. Outdoor pollutants often enter buildings through cracks and windows.
A. True B. False C. Not stated
7. Pollutants can cause problems like too much mold and allergies.
A. True B. False C. Not stated

Task 2. For items 8-15, read the text and choose the correct option (A, B, C or D).

Less is More

The 17th-century French artist Poussin is famous for his paintings. They often show calm, peaceful countryside landscapes which teach mankind serious lessons. These lessons can be hard to understand, and even art experts still debate some of them. But in the painting called "Landscape with Diogenes," the message seems clear. It shows the old Greek philosopher Diogenes throwing away his last thing—a drinking bowl. He sees a young boy drinking water from a river using his hand, and realises he doesn't need the bowl. People inspired by Diogenes — called "new minimalists" — are now everywhere, even if they're not as extreme about owning almost nothing as he was.

There are hundreds of websites praising the benefits of living without clutter. For example, Kevin says, "I can carry everything I own." He has a few clothes, a laptop, two pots, a bowl, a spoon, a fork, and a flask. He likes sitting on the floor and eating fruit, nuts, vegetables, and rice. At first, Kevin says "The good thing about an empty room is that you start to notice other things, like how the sunlight changes during the day. Too many things can trap you mentally and physically — you focus on objects instead of the lively world of nature outside."

These days, everyone is trying to have fewer things. People want to reduce the pollution they cause, and their monthly spending. There's also a worry that people are getting overwhelmed by their possessions. This fear comes from the studies showing that shopping is now one of the main hobbies. But today's minimalists don't tell us to burn our books. They just suggest keeping them as digital files. Technology is amazing, but I'm always scared that my computer might break and lose everything. What is more important, our memories are tied to our things, so we can't throw them away.

Nowadays we are not really giving up our love for objects. We're just getting new things that let us throw away or recycle the old ones. Diogenes, who was a Cynic philosopher, would see through this quickly. Rich people buy gadgets to live simply, but they're still buying things — just different ones from before.

A few years ago, I wrote that expensive watches would disappear because phones can show time. But people still want them, even if they cost £20,000. The main reason is not their function, but status — they show you're important. So, we like things not just because we're sentimental, but also because they make us look good.

I found a website that seems to fix many problems. It's an online advice service for storage. The designer doesn't tell you to get rid of your belongings, but to buy more things (like nice boxes and containers) to hide the old ones. I like this idea—it gives you a clean, minimalist look and makes you feel in control, without losing anything. I don't think this will change soon. We're not ready yet to follow Diogenes and throw away everything.

8. What is the main message of Poussin's painting «*Landscape with Diogenes*»?

- A. Nature is more beautiful than human-made objects.
- B. Simplicity and letting go of possessions can be enlightening.
- C. Philosophers should live in the countryside.
- D. Water is the most important resource.

9. **According to the text, what do «new minimalists» have in common with Diogenes?**
- A. They try to possess fewer things.
 - B. They live in ancient Greece.
 - C. They drink water from a river using their hands.
 - D. They reject all forms of belongings.
10. **Kevin says the advantage of an empty room is that...**
- A. there are a lot of benefits of living without clutter.
 - B. you begin picking up on the activity around you.
 - C. it provides more space for exercising.
 - D. it makes cleaning much easier.
11. **Which of the following best describes the author's attitude toward digital storage of books?**
- A. Enthusiastic support.
 - B. Complete rejection.
 - C. Cautious skepticism.
 - D. Indifferent acceptance.
12. **Why does the author worry about relying on technology?**
- A. It's too expensive.
 - B. The data on his device may be corrupted.
 - C. It's bad for the environment.
 - D. It makes people lonely.

13. According to the text, why do people still buy expensive watches?

- A. For practical timekeeping purposes.
- B. Because they are more reliable than phones.
- C. Because they represent prestige and significance.
- D. For sentimental value.

14. What does the online storage advice service suggest?

- A. Get rid of your belongings.
- B. Acquire additional storage units and put your things in them.
- C. Move to a bigger house.
- D. Try to feel in control of everything.

15. What does “less is more” mean in this context?

- A. Owning fewer things can lead to a richer life.
- B. You should never buy anything new.
- C. Small houses are better than big ones.
- D. Money doesn't buy happiness.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet

USE OF ENGLISH

Time: 20 minutes

Maximum score – 20

Task 1. For items 1-10, read the text below and decide which option (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

Peterhof

The palace complex at Peterhof – called Petrodvorets (1) ... 1944 – is extensive and varied. More than 20 palaces and pavilions (2) ... out in huge interconnecting parks along the (3) of Finland. The royal palaces were (4) ... by aristocratic palaces and country houses, but these were largely destroyed in World War II and not rebuilt. While many of the constituent elements are not outstanding, the whole is far (5) ... than the sum of the parts. The restoration, begun in 1945 and continuing into the 21st century, is quite extraordinary.

Peter the Great first noticed the site's potential in 1709 and built a two-storey palace there between 1715 and 1724. This remains at the heart of the present Great Palace, which now has a third storey and long wings (6) ... for the Empress Elizabeth by Bartolomeo Franchesko Rastrelli. The palace interiors are a mixture of Rastrelli's Baroque and Neoclassical rooms (7) ... for Catherine the Great by Yuri Felten and others. Between the Great Palace and the Gulf of Finland (8) the Grand Cascade. The cascade and the dozens of (9) ... in the Lower Park form the most remarkable assemblage in the world of devices (10) ... water to entertain, amuse, and delight.

1.	A along	B since	C during	D when
2.	A are set	B being set	C have set	D are setting
3.	A Canal	B Chain	C Channel	D Gulf
4.	A bordered	B bordering	C were being bordered	D border
5.	A greatest	B large	C greater	D larger
6.	A designing	B designed	C design	D having designed
7.	A redecorating	B redecorate	C redecorated	D to redecorate
8.	A stretches	B stays	C remains	D goes
9.	A pools	B fountains	C squares	D parks
10.	A using	B creating	C founding	D mixing

Task 2. For items 11-20, read the fragments below and decide which option (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

(11) ... Day, in the United States, holiday (first Monday in September) honoring workers and recognizing their contributions to society.

Halloween is a holiday observed on October 31 and noted for its pagan and (12) ... roots and secular traditions.

Thanksgiving Day is an annual national holiday in the United States and Canada celebrating the (13) ... and other blessings of the past year.

The United States is a federal republic of 50 states. Besides the 48 adjoining states that occupy the middle latitudes of the continent, the United States includes the state of Alaska, at the northwestern extreme of North America, and the island state of **(14) ...**, in the mid-Pacific Ocean.

Trooping the Colour is a traditional observance of the British monarch's official **(15) ...** with a military ceremony and parade in London.

English **(16) ...** has traditionally been based on beef, lamb, pork, chicken, and fish, all cooked with the minimum of embellishment and generally served with potatoes and one other vegetable – or, in the case of fish (most commonly cod or haddock) deep-fried in batter and served with deep-fried potato slices (chips).

Art galleries abound in England. The best-known are based in London and include the National Gallery, the **(17) ...** and Albert Museum, the National Portrait Gallery, two Tate galleries – Tate Britain and Tate Modern – and the Wallace Collection.

The English language is polyglot, drawn from a variety of sources, and its vocabulary has been augmented by importations from throughout the world. The English language does not identify the English, for it is the main language of Wales, Scotland, Ireland, many **(18) ...** countries, and the United States.

In the millennia following the last glacial period, the British Isles were peopled by migrant tribes from the continent of Europe and, later, by traders from the **(19) ...** area.

The **(20)** ... is the longest river in England, also rises in the Cotswolds and drains a large part of southeastern England.

11.	A Columbus	B Independence	C Labor	D May
12.	A religious	B political	C theological	D geographical
13.	A harvest	B labour	C profit	D success
14.	A Etna	B Hawaii	C Man	D Cyprus
15.	A coronation	B speech	C birthday	D crowning
16.	A cuisine	B pottery	C kitchen	D beverages
17.	A Elizabeth	B Victoria	C London	D British
18.	A Continent	B Constitution	C Parliament	D Commonwealth
19.	A Royal	B Eire	C Mediterranean	D Island
20.	A Thames	B Clyde	C Mississippi	D Loch Ness

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet

WRITING
Time: 30 minutes
Maximum score – 20

This is a part of the e-mail letter you received from your English friend James:

“... My cousin is coming to our place on Saturday. We haven’t seen each other for ages! Mom and Dad promised to take us for a picnic this weekend, and after that we are going to the cinema! What are the most popular weekend activities among the teenagers in your country? What do you like to do at weekends and why? What are you planning to do next Sunday?...”

Write an e-mail letter to James and answer his questions.

Do not forget to:

- greet your friend;
- thank him for his letter;
- say what weekend activities are the most popular among the teenagers in your country;
- say what you like to do at weekends and why;
- say what you are planning to do next Sunday.

Write 100-140 words

Remember the rules of e-mail letter writing!

Transfer your e-mail letter to the answer sheet