

LISTENING

Time: 20 minutes

Maximum score – 30

Task 1. You will hear a part of an interview with the press officer of the National Fitness Association, in which he gives advice on how to join the right gym. For questions 1-6 choose the best answer (A, B, C or D), for questions 7-10 choose the best option (A or B). You will hear the text twice.

- 1. Why is it advisable to research gyms before you join?**
 - A. To lose weight in the wrong gym is almost impossible
 - B. Different gyms suit people with different needs
 - C. Gyms hosting varied classes provide you with motivation
 - D. It's important to find a gym with a vibrant social scene

- 2. What does Mark warn about joining an unsuitable gym?**
 - A. You probably relinquish an idea of training
 - B. You will pay for extra services the gym offers
 - C. Going to the gym will cost you a real fortune
 - D. There will be no staff providing you with motivation

- 3. According to Mark, when should you visit a gym for the first time?**
 - A. On any weekday
 - B. When the gym is in action
 - C. At a relatively quiet time
 - D. Between 5 pm and 7 pm

- 4. What should you find out apart from the standard monthly cost of being a member?**
- A. Whether yoga classes are included in costs
 - B. Whether the changing rooms are expensive
 - C. Whether a personal trainer is compulsory
 - D. Whether there are any hidden costs
- 5. Why is it better to avoid life membership?**
- A. You might decide to live elsewhere
 - B. The gym might move far away from you
 - C. You might change your mind about exercise
 - D. The gym might ask to sign a special contract
- 6. Why is it worth to do a research before joining a gym?**
- A. It can make a difference to the overall cost
 - B. It will encourage you to start exercising
 - C. The right gym can improve your quality of life
 - D. The right gym can maintain your sedentary lifestyle
- 7. According to the research almost a third of all office workers are signed up at a gym**
- A. True B. False
- 8. It is recommended to inspect the surrounding area of a gym for parking options**
- A. True B. False
- 9. Signing a contract, the gym must secure your signature on your first visit**
- A. True B. False
- 10. Most people are a bit uncertain about joining a gym when they think it is simple**
- A. True B. False

Task 2. For questions 11-15 choose the problem each speaker faced while travelling. You will hear the text twice. There are 2 extra letters you do not need to use.

- A.** The speaker was forgetful
- B.** The speaker made a wrong decision
- C.** The speaker got to the wrong place
- D.** The speaker was treated badly
- E.** The speaker didn't take safety precautions
- F.** The speaker was involved in a frightening incident
- G.** The speaker was fired

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet

Reading

Time: 40 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).

Art could take pain out of public transport

Travelling on British public transport could become a pleasurable, artistic and educational experience, according to a report.

This could be achieved by simple and inexpensive measures such as information sheets on inter-city journeys detailing sights and monuments; language and ‘places to visit’ workshops on ferries; children's coaches with videos and storytelling on trains; artwork in airport departure lounges; and poems, photographs and paintings on buses and trains and at bus and railway stations. The study of the arts in the transport system is fiercely critical about the lack of public art and notes that mostly it is limited to painting.

Naseem Khan and Ken Worpole, the arts policy researchers who wrote the report, conclude that well thought-out and positioned initiatives like Poems on the Underground (posters of poems in tube train carriages) can improve the experience of travel and gain dedicated fans.

Generally, though, hours spent on public transport are “spent in a state that can range from boredom to annoyance. Travelling has become a depressing experience, a state in which one thinks of nothing in order to minimise unpleasantness.”

But people who travel abroad bring back memories of Stockholm’s metro system, with art in each station reflecting the world above, be it a park or a university, or Melbourne's artist-painted buses. The authors point out that Britain's transport

system used to stir the imagination. Sepia photographs of resorts used to decorate old railway carriages, old London Transport posters encouraged travellers to explore their own city and in the thirties a travel guide was sold on the London-Penzance express, detailing the route and giving historical information.

Public art, the report says, too often gives the impression of having been slipped in quietly in the hope that it will have been accepted before it has been noticed. The wall designs which decorate the passageways at Heathrow airport are described as dull and unexciting. But praise is given to the sculptures at Brixton railway station. While the report says that there is no substitute for good architecture and design, some of its most interesting recommendations call for more imaginative developments than just concentrating on the visual arts. “The presence of personal stereos and new technology suggest the introduction of fresh developments such as journey recordings containing information on, or music and poetry related to, the sights being passed.”

Live performance carries the danger of being a nuisance, but videos on trains travelling to festivals, containing information on shows, with booking available from cell phones, would, says the report, provide a welcome service.

“There is scope for a journey to be turned into a positive experience rather than being merely a passive period to be lived through. Journeys are not among the trials of life but among the opportunities.”

1. The cost of implementing art projects on public transport in Britain would be covered by government grants.

A. True B. False C. Not stated

2. Public art on British transport is currently diverse.

A. True B. False C. Not stated

3. **Naseem Khan and Ken Worpole state that initiatives like *Poems on the Underground* have failed to attract public interest.**
A. True B. False C. Not stated
4. **Introducing art on trains has led to a measurable increase in passenger numbers in Stockholm and Melbourne.**
A. True B. False C. Not stated
5. **Stockholm's metro system is mentioned as an example where art in stations reflects the surrounding environment of the city.**
A. True B. False C. Not stated
6. **Live performances on public transport have been successfully trialled in Paris, leading to higher customer satisfaction.**
A. True B. False C. Not stated
7. **Journeys cannot be turned into positive experiences, and they are merely passive periods to endure.**
A. True B. False C. Not stated

Task 2. For items 8-15, read the text and choose the correct option.

THE EARLY YEARS OF THE AA

In the early 1900s the clip-clop of horses' hooves was rapidly being overtaken by the chug-chug of motor car engines. Early motoring, however, was fraught with problems, from pot-holed roads and continual breakdowns to a police force who did little to help, other than arrest drivers for breaking the speed limit. A group of men

decided to set up an organisation to help the beleaguered motorists and soon became their champion.

The Automobile Association was formed in 1905. Its aim at the outset was to protect the interests of motorists, by "patrolling the London to Brighton road and other main roads, as soon as subscriptions were obtained", with the object of warning motorists of police speed checkpoints ahead. A number of keen bicycle riders were paid for by the AA members' subscription fees to check where the police lay in wait and to warn motorists before they reached the spot. Wearing yellow armbands with the AA logo, they would wave at passing motorists if a speed trap lay ahead. And to identify members from non-members, a car badge was produced.

By 1906 the number of permanent patrols approached 40 during the week and nearly 100 at weekends, while membership had reached 3,000. "Initiate" was the keyword of the Association in the early years, and this it did. It was responsible for the introduction of the first village name signs. Within ten days of agreeing the idea, up went the first sign, giving the name of the village, the distance from London and the name and distance of the next village along the road, all topped off with the AA badge.

This was followed by the introduction of free legal defence to any member in any proceedings in court under the Motor Car Act. A nationwide chain of solicitors, who were paid a small flat fee for looking after members' interests, was set up. It was in 1907 that the AA took the first step to change from a Metropolitan organisation into a national one, by opening offices in Manchester and Glasgow.

By 1908 the time had come to look overseas and, with the cooperation of the Touring Club de France, the AA set up its very own Touring Department. This immediately proved itself capable of obtaining all the complicated but necessary papers to take a car into a foreign country, booking ferry tickets, providing local currency, petrol, maps, locations of suitable repair garages and details of hotels.

Shortly afterwards, the AA Committee approved the issuing of the first Handbook. The preface for the 1908 edition spelt out the AA's objectives and all the facilities and services available for members' benefit.

In 1909 the AA paid their attention to the uniform. A smart khaki tunic with breeches and leggings and a cap complete with a badge was issued to all patrols. Shortly after, they were given yellow oilskins and "sentry boxes" were erected to enable them to shelter from the cold and the rain. The sentry boxes were soon fitted with telephones, for patrols to assist members who wished to make a call.

In 1910, the AA merged with one of its main competitors, the Motor Union. The joint organisation had a total of 28,040 members. Under the agreement the AA changed its name to the Automobile Association and Motor Union.

By 1912 the AA had long been appointing roadside hotels and inns, who were then able to display the AA symbol outside. But motorists wanted to know what kind of accommodation they could expect to find, without going inside the establishment to have a look. Stenson Cooke made up the system of grading hotels and inns by stars, he knew that the middling three-star hotel would please the majority.

With the outbreak of the First World War, the AA patrols and administrative staff were drastically depleted but the Association continued to support its members with a number of voluntary schemes. During the war, membership dropped from 90,000 until, by 1918, there were only 36,663 AA members. Yet the war had popularised mechanical transport to such an extent that a good number of soldiers proceeded to buy motor-cycles or cars when the war ended and AA membership started to boom again.

That year garages were given stars, much like the hotels; one and two stars were awarded to those with modest motoring supplies; three and four stars for garages equipped to undertake repairs and carrying a range of parts.

In 1919 it was decided that patrols on bicycles were not good enough; a fleet of Road Service Outfits - consisting of motorcycles and sidecars - each patrolling 30 miles of roads, was to be introduced as well. The idea was that these would be miniature repair shops, capable of carrying out running repairs to members' cars. And so started the first "breakdown service" provided by the AA.

Up to 1920, petrol could only be obtained in two-gallon tins - filling stations, as we know them, did not exist. After a trip to California, the AA's Honorary Treasurer explained that, in America, he could get all the petrol he needed from roadside fuel pumps. The AA, therefore, became the first organisation to set up roadside filling stations in England. Ten were established, spread throughout the country, manned by AA patrols who would only serve members.

Also in 1920, a night service was established at Fanum House in London, providing 24-hour assistance to members. It was a success from the outset. Maps had been written out by hand in the early days, when a member requested help in getting from A to B. It was agreed to make them widely available by mass production - printing. In addition, a group of men from the Routes Department was given a fleet of cars in which to carry out the job of logging every mile an AA member might be likely to travel. More than 30,000 miles were covered in the first season's work. Also, in February 1920, the long-coveted membership figure of 100,000 was reached.

8. What was the primary initial purpose of the AA when it was formed in 1905?

- A. To provide legal defense for motorists in court cases.
- B. To set up filling stations across the country.
- C. To monitor roads and alert drivers to speed checkpoints.
- D. To solve the problems of pot-holed roads and car breakdowns.

9. **How did AA patrols originally warn drivers about speed traps ahead?**
- A. By paying bicycle riders.
 - B. By having arm identifiers and showing them to passing cars.
 - C. By placing signs on the road themselves.
 - D. By hanging AA badges on cars.
10. **What innovation did the AA introduce to help identify roads and certain locations?**
- A. Free legal defense services.
 - B. Name signs with some spacing and the association sign.
 - C. Uniforms for patrols including khaki tunics.
 - D. They renewed some village names.
11. **What legal service did the AA offer to members under the Motor Car Act?**
- A. Free traffic law tuition.
 - B. Discounted fines for speeding.
 - C. Advocacy provided at no cost during court proceedings.
 - D. Solicitors looked for the members' interests .
12. **What service did the AA's Touring Department provide in 1908?**
- A. Local currency exchange only.
 - B. Assistance with intricate but vital foreign paperwork and arrangements.
 - C. Discounts on continental hotels.
 - D. Booking ferry tickets all over the world only.

13. In which year repair establishments were given classifications?

- A. 1907
- B. 1908
- C. 1918
- D. 1920

14. What marked the start of the AA's "breakdown service" in 1919?

- A. Portable repair units in the form of vehicles.
- B. Mobile repair vans staffed by mechanics.
- C. The use of bicycles by patrols.
- D. Partnerships with local garages.

15. Which of the following was NOT a service or innovation introduced by the AA in its early years, according to the text?

- A. Grading garages with stars.
- B. Providing free legal defense under the Motor Car Act.
- C. Setting up a Touring Department for overseas travel.
- D. Manufacturing motor cars for members.

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet

USE OF ENGLISH

Time: 20 minutes

Maximum score – 20

Task 1. For items 1-12, read the text below and decide which option (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

Trooping the Colour

Trooping the Colour is traditional observance of the British monarch's official (1) with a military ceremony and parade in London. Irrespective of the actual day upon which the sovereign was born, a Saturday in June is annually set aside (2) the monarch's birth with pomp, pageantry, and music. The time of year was established in the expectation of pleasant weather.

The connection of trooping the colour with the monarch's birthday is usually cited as (3) in 1748, during the reign of George II. Edward VII (4) to have been the first sovereign to receive the salute in person.

The modern ceremony (5) at Horse Guards Parade in Whitehall in the presence of the sovereign and each year (6) one of the five Household Regiments – Grenadier, Coldstream, Scots, Irish, and Welsh guards, all which are operation-ready. After the monarch receives a royal salute and (7) the troops, the massed royal military bands perform the main musical program, and the regimental (8) is trooped. The Foot Guards and the Household Cavalry then march past the sovereign, followed by the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery. The monarch then rides (9) of the household guards in a parade up the Mall to Buckingham Palace. There the sovereign accepts a salute from a dais (10) retiring to the palace balcony with the royal family to watch a flyover by the Royal Air Force. The event (11) annually since the accession of George IV,

(12) there have been occasions when it was preempted, notably during World War II and in 1955, when a rail strike disrupted transportation.

1.	A speech	B holiday	C birthday	D duty
2.	A to celebrate	B celebrating	C celebrated	D to be celebrated
3.	A originated	B being originated	C having originated	D originating
4.	A believed	B is believed	C to believe	D believing
5.	A is held	B is presented	C is advanced	D is represented
6.	A admits	B involves	C controls	D creates
7.	A studies	B examines	C inspects	D controls
8.	A colour	B song	C flag	D banner
9.	A on the head	B at the head	C in the end	D at the start
10.	A before	B beside	C from	D after
11.	A is held	B has been held	C holding	D held
12.	A ever	B in spite of	C despite	D though

Task 2. For items 13-20, read the fragments below and decide which option (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

(13) is a constituent state of the United States of America. It was admitted to the union as the 49th state on January 3, 1959.

Los Angeles is a city in southern California, U.S. It is the second most populous city and metropolitan area (after (14)) in the United States.

Great Lakes are a chain of deep freshwater lakes in east-central North America comprising Lakes Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and (15).

The (16) of the United States of America is the fundamental law of the U. S. federal system of government and a landmark document of the Western world.

The English language does not identify the English, for it is the main language of Wales, Scotland, Ireland, many (17) countries, and the United States.

The British Parliament, often referred to as the “Mother of Parliaments”, consists of the (18), the House of Lords, and the House of Commons.

Covent garden is a (19) in the City of Westminster, London.

Cockney is a dialect of the (20) language traditionally spoken by working-class Londoners. Cockney is also often used to refer to anyone from London – in particular, from its East End.

13.	A Alaska	B New-York	C Hawaii	D California
14.	A Boston	B New York City	C Washington	D Chicago
15.	A Loch Ness	B Ontario	C Geneva	D Clyde
16.	A Constitution	B Parliament	C Capitol	D Bill of Rights
17.	A State	B Congress	C Commonwealth	D Federal
18.	A prime- minister	B sovereign	C vice-president	D president
19.	A college	B theatre	C tower	D square
20.	A English	B Scottish	C Irish	D Welsh

Transfer your answers to the answer sheet

WRITING
Time: 40 minutes
Maximum score – 20

Texting is not talking and a phone is not a friend. (*Amit Kalantri*)

Write an **essay**, expressing **your opinion** on this statement.

Remember to:

- Make an introduction.
- Express your **personal opinion** on the problem and give **2 reasons** for your opinion.
- Make a conclusion.

Use 150-200 words.

Transfer your essay to the answer sheet