

ДЪРЖАВЕН ЗРЕЛОСТЕН ИЗПИТ ПО АНГЛИЙСКИ ЕЗИК
17. 05. 2010 г.
ВАРИАНТ 1

TRANSCRIPTS

PART ONE: LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Directions: *You will hear a text about the education in developing countries twice. Before you listen to it, you have **1 minute** to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have **5 minutes** to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among A, B or C. Then you will hear the text again and will have **1 minute** to check your answers.*

Dawn has just broken but classes have already started at a village school in Kenya. Around 30 children, mostly from poor families, sit listening as an enthusiastic 18-year-old teacher gives an arithmetic lesson. The school is really little more than a sandy patch of ground under a tree. The blackboard hangs from its branches. There are no desks or chairs. Pupils use sticks to scratch numbers in the sand.

The lack of basic school equipment is typical of schools in poor countries. What is unusual is that the teacher was actually present and teaching.

In India, for example, research reveals that 25% of teachers in government-run schools are away on any given day; of those present, only half were actually teaching when the researchers made spot checks. That is dreadful but not unusual.

Attending school is only the first step towards education. Spending time in school does not guarantee good outcomes.

So what to do? More government spending is unlikely to be a complete answer. Some experts say private-sector education in poor countries routinely outperforms education in government-run schools.

Directions: *You will hear a story about **count Dracula** twice. Before you listen to it, you have **1 minute** to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text you have **5 minutes** to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among A, B or C. Then you will hear the text again and will have **1 minute** to check your answers.*

We travelled all day until we saw the outline of Castle Dracula in the distance. There it sat, on the edge of a steep rock, a thousand feet on top of a hill. We heard wolves howling across the snow. The river lay below us.

Suddenly, straight in front of us we saw it – a cart carrying an enormous wooden box, rushing towards Castle Dracula. My heart leapt with joy.

But the snow began to fall more thickly around us, blotting everything from sight. We waited. Later, the wind changed direction and started to blow the snow away from us. Now we could see the cart, coming closer and closer. We hid behind a rock and had our guns ready.

When the cart almost reached us, I heard my husband Jonathan shouting, “Stop!” At the same time Professor Van Helsing and I pointed our weapons at the men on the cart. Seeing that they were surrounded, they stopped the horses and formed a circle.

Jonathan reached the circle first and forced his way through. He jumped onto the cart. With a strength I did not know he possessed, my dear husband pushed the box onto the ground. Then he jumped from the cart and attacked the box with his knife.

Finally the lid of the box flew open and we could see Count Dracula lying there, deathly pale like a wax figure. His red eyes glared with the evil look I knew so well. As he looked at the setting sun, that look turned to one of triumph. We had to hurry.

Directions: *You will hear a story about **an experience in a lift** twice. Before you listen to it, you have **2 minutes** to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have **5 minutes** to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among A, B, C or D. Then you will hear the text again and will have **1 minute** to check your answers.*

Some years ago I used to work on the tenth floor of an office block in the city centre. It was one of several new buildings with a glass lift on the outside. People in the street could look up and see the lift going up and down, whereas those in the lift were able to look out at the view.

On Friday evening I was the last one to leave the office. I set the security alarm on and walked out, locking the doors behind me. There seemed to be no one else in any of the other offices. I pressed the lift button, got into the lift and started to descend. Suddenly, the lift stopped and the lights went out. A power cut, I thought, but then I saw that the street below was still brightly illuminated and there was electricity in all the buildings across the street too. I could only hope that Mr. Jenkins, the night doorman would soon realize the problem and come to rescue me. At first, I did nothing and just waited quietly in the dark, but as time went by, I got nervous. About half an hour must have passed and there was still absolute silence. In the dark I couldn't make out any of the buttons in the lift. In desperation I pushed my hands deep into my pockets and my fingers touched a packet of matches that I had picked up in a restaurant earlier that day. I lit a match and peered at the panel with the lift buttons. The alarm button was right at the top – somehow I had never noticed it before. I pushed it but no sound was heard. Neither did it stir any activity outside. Then an idea crossed my mind and I started lighting the matches one by one and waving them near the glass walls of the lift. Finally, I managed to attract someone's attention in the street below, and a few moments later I was freed from my glass prison.

I never used that lift again.