

ДЪРЖАВЕН ЗРЕЛОСТЕН ИЗПИТ ПО АНГЛИЙСКИ ЕЗИК

1. 09. 2010 г.

ВАРИАНТ 2

Ползва се само от учителя-консултант при необходимост!

Учителят-консултант изчита на глас и инструкцията, и съответния текст, според указанията в инструкцията!

TRANSCRIPTS

PART ONE: LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Directions: *You will hear a text about Dutch cheese 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.*

Cheese has always been a traditional Dutch product. Every Friday morning during the tourist season, excited crowds of tourists gather early on the traditional cheese markets. You'll see business conducted here as it has always been since 1693. Of the piles of various cheeses spread out on the ground, the most popular are big, wheel-like cheeses called Gauda and ball-like ones, Edam. Though similar in taste, Gauda has a higher milk fat content, so its texture is somewhat creamier.

The cheeses are laid out for buyers and exporters to examine and taste before buying. With a special scoop they bore out a long, round piece, smelling, tasting, and crumbling it between their fingers to determine the fat and moisture content. When eventually two people, the buyer and the seller, start slapping one another's hands, they are negotiating prices in the traditional manner. A final slap finishes the deal.

After that is done, the cheese is carried to the scales by porters, all dressed in spotless white, wearing straw hats. By means of leather shoulder straps, they carry their trays loaded with up to 80 cannon-ball-sized cheeses weighing around 160 kilos.

At the Weigh House, the collector weighs the cheese, marking the weight of the total load. The "weightmaster" calls out the weight, notes it on a blackboard, and the porters deliver it to the buyer.

Directions: *You will hear a story about **King Arthur** 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.*

King Arthur was caught and imprisoned by his enemies. They could have killed him but instead they offered him his freedom, as long as he could answer a very difficult question. Arthur would have a year to figure out the answer and, if after a year, he still had no answer, he would be put to death. The question was: What do women really want?

He returned to his kingdom and spoke to everyone, but no one could give him a satisfactory answer. People advised him to consult the old witch, for only she would have the answer, but the price would be high. The last day of the year arrived and Arthur had no choice but to talk to the witch. The witch wanted to marry Sir Lancelot, the most noble of the Knights of the Round Table, and Arthur's closest friend! Arthur refused to force his friend to marry her, but Lancelot said nothing was too big a sacrifice compared to Arthur's life, so the wedding was announced. The witch answered Arthur's question like that: "What a woman really wants is to be in charge of her own life." The answer was correct, Arthur was freed and Lancelot married the witch. The honeymoon hour approached and, horrified, Lancelot entered the bedroom. But, what a sight awaited him there. The most beautiful woman he had ever seen lay before him on the bed. The beauty said that she would be the ugly witch only half the time and the beautiful maiden the other half. "Which would you prefer?" She asked him. "Beautiful during the day ... or at night?" Lancelot said that he would allow HER to make the choice herself. Hearing this, she announced that she would be beautiful all the time because he had respected her enough to let her be in charge of her own life.

Directions: You will hear a text about *some English phrases* 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.

Have you ever wondered what the phrases "red letter day" and "green with envy" mean and how they came into use? If someone tells you that today is a red letter day, they mean a day of importance, such as a holiday, birthday, or anniversary. But why "red letter"?

The phrase "red letter day" dates back to at least 1385, when members of ancient monasteries and convents were responsible for producing calendars. They would use black ink for writing most of the calendar, but used red ink to mark important dates such as the days of Saints or other religious occasions, or holidays. The red ink was easy to see at a glance.

In the movie *Aladdin*, Princess Jasmine sings the lyric "...every moment red letter..." in the song *A Whole New World* referring to her time with Aladdin on the magic carpet as being extremely special and important.

"Green with envy" was a colourful term used long before Mark Twain wrote these words about jealousy in the late 1800s. Today, the saying means that one is envious of someone or something.

If you go back a few hundred years to the 16th and 17th centuries, great authors such as Shakespeare and Chaucer wrote of characters who were green with envy.

Long before Shakespeare connected green with jealousy, the colour was more commonly used to describe illness. The Greeks thought that when you were ill or jealous, the body produced too much bile, giving the skin a green colour.