

ДЪРЖАВЕН ЗРЕЛОСТЕН ИЗПИТ ПО АНГЛИЙСКИ ЕЗИК

19. 05. 2011 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 radio programme about the **Mystery of the Great Pyramids** 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 **3 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.*

The Mysteries of the Great Pyramids

There are dozens of mysteries that people cannot explain. Let's take a look at one of those – the Great Pyramids, an issue that has always provided food for thought.

The first pyramid to be built was the one called Step. It was probably the first large stone object anyway. Egyptians used to steal stones from the Step Pyramid to make other buildings. So currently, it is 198 feet tall. But it set the beginning of a whole string of strange pyramids.

The second in the line was the Bent Pyramid. The reason for its name was that halfway through the construction process, the insides started to collapse so the angle dramatically changed. It is about 330 feet tall. Obviously you can't expect to get a perfect pyramid at the first try.

However, three "true" pyramids were built around 2467 B.C. at Giza. The first one was 471 feet tall. The second was very small compared to the other pyramids, only 215 feet. That's not even as tall as the Statue of Liberty!

Finally, the Great Pyramid was built. Originally 481 feet tall, it has worn away since. Each of its bricks is half as tall as an adult. The Great Pyramid has three small "queens' pyramids" surrounding it. Their arrangement may have been inspired by the stars.

Many people have theories about how the pyramids were built. One theory is that aliens built them. Another is that god-like creatures taught people how to build the pyramids. To this day, there has not been a real explanation about the pyramid construction.

Directions: *You will hear a text about **someone's skill to forecast the weather** 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 **3 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.*

Two men were travelling in a very wild part of America. They saw no modern houses and no traces of civilization for many days. What they saw were only a few huts made of wood or tents where Indians lived. One day they met an old Indian who was a hunter. He was very clever and knew everything about the forest and the animals living in it and many other things. He could also speak English quite well. They had a good long talk with him and then prepared to go on the road again.

"Can you tell us what the weather will be like during the next few days?" one of the two travellers asked the Indian.

"Oh, yes," he answered. "Rain is coming, and wind. Then there will be snow for a day or two, but then the sunshine will come again and the weather will be fine."

"These old Indians seem to know more about Nature than we do today with all that science," said the man to his friend. Then he turned to the old Indian again.

"Tell me," he asked, "how do you know all that?"

The Indian answered: "I heard it over the radio."

Directions: You will hear a text about a nun's unusual hobby 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 **4 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.

For its millions of users all over the globe, **Facebook** is a fun and harmless way to make new friends and catch up with old ones. However, for the 56-year-old Spanish nun Maria Jesus Galan, her online activity on the social networking site ended up costing her job and her home.

Sister Maria was asked to leave the religious order where she had lived in seclusion for 35 years because she spent too much time on the website, it has been reported. True to her nickname of 'Sister Internet', given to her by her fellow nuns, the nun herself first broke the news on her **Facebook** page, where she wrote: "Following disagreements over my online activity, I have now been officially asked to leave the convent."

An online campaign attracting thousands of supporters is now under way, with fan pages springing up, demanding that she be allowed to return back into the convent. Sister Maria had almost 600 'friends' on **Facebook** at the time of her expulsion from the convent and listed her hobbies as 'reading, music, art and making friends', according to *The Telegraph*.

The 14th century convent in Toledo, where Sister 'Internet' used to live, first got a computer 10 years ago to lessen the need for nuns to enter the outside world. Sister Maria, who entered the order when she was 21 years old, told *The Telegraph*: "It enabled us do things such as banking online and saved us having to make trips into the city." Notably, she also began digitising the convent's archives and made them accessible to the world – an activity for which she was praised and given an award, and through which she gained hundreds of friends on **Facebook**.

Now living at her mother's house, Sister Maria wants to use her new-found freedom to see the world. She posted on her **Facebook** page: "I would like to visit London and New York. Such things were impossible to even dream about when I was at the convent."