

ДЪРЖАВЕН ЗРЕЛОСТЕН ИЗПИТ ПО АНГЛИЙСКИ ЕЗИК

26. 05. 2011 г.

ВАРИАНТ 1

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 some information about the inventor Nikola Tesla 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.*

When we talk about energy and alternative energy, a name that always comes to mind is Nikola Tesla. He is one of the few inventors who can be grouped together with Albert Einstein and Thomas Edison, part of the club of scientists who pretty much changed the world. However, Tesla is not very well known. Furthermore, other inventors have often taken credit for ideas he had developed.

Tesla was born in 1856 in the village of Smiljan, Croatia. He completed his studies in his home country, and became an electrical engineer. In 1884 he emigrated to the United States. Arriving in New York City with four cents in his pocket, Tesla found employment with Thomas Edison. However, the two of them had so different an approach to their work that they soon separated.

Tesla managed well on his own. At the time of his death, he held over 700 patents. His experiments ranged from exploration of electrical resonance to studies of various lighting systems. To counter people's fears of alternating current, Tesla lighted lamps without wires by allowing electricity to flow through his body.

He also became intrigued with wireless transmission of power. In 1900, Tesla began the construction of a wireless broadcasting tower on Long Island. The project was abandoned when its financial support was withdrawn. Tesla's work shifted to other projects, but his ideas remained on the drawing board due to a lack of funds. Tesla's notebooks are still examined by engineers in search of unexploited ideas.

Directions: *You will hear a text about two Americans abroad 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 Americans were travelling in Spain. One morning they entered a little restaurant for a late breakfast. However, they did not know Spanish, and the waiter did not know English, either. So the two Americans tried to think of a way to make him understand that they just wanted some fresh milk and sandwiches.

At first they pronounced the word "milk" slowly several times. Then they spelled it. But the waiter still could not understand what they wanted.

At last one of them took a piece of paper and began to draw a cow. He was just finishing his drawing, when the waiter looked at it knowingly and ran out of the restaurant.

"You see," said the traveller who had drawn the cow, "what a pencil drawing can do for a man who has difficulties in a foreign country."

After some time the waiter was back, but to the Americans' surprise he brought no milk. He put down in front of the two men two tickets for a bull-fight!

Directions: *You will hear a text about soap operas 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.*

Many experts say soap was first produced by the Phoenicians about twenty-six-hundred years ago. The Phoenicians used it on wounds and to color their hair and to wash fabrics for clothes. The ancient Greeks, however, are believed to have been the first to use soap for personal hygiene.

By the ninth century, small businesses in Italy, Spain and France produced different kinds of soap. These small businesses did not become a large industry until the last century.

One English expression is closely linked to the soap-making industry in the United States. It is "soap opera". Soap operas are radio and television plays about the problems and emotions in human relationships. They are called soap operas, because the first programs, years ago, were paid for by soap-making companies.

Like musical operas, soap operas are not about real people. Critics often say that they do not present a balanced picture of real life. They note that almost everyone in a soap opera has a serious emotional problem, or is guilty of a crime. And there are several crises in every half hour program.

Yet, soap opera fans do not care what the critics say. They love the programs and watch them every day. Such loyalty made soap operas very popular in the US. In fact, a few programs are so popular that they have been produced with the same actors for many years.