

ВАРИАНТ 1

ДА СЕ ПОЛЗВА ЕДИНСТВЕНО ОТ УЧИТЕЛЯ-КОНСУЛТАНТ ПРИ НЕОБХОДИМОСТ!

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

**Directions:** *You will hear a text about **Harrison Ford** 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.*

Harrison Ford became fascinated with acting while at college in Wisconsin. He took a drama class in the final quarter of his senior year to get over his shyness and enjoyed the experience greatly. In 1964, Ford traveled to Los Angeles, California to apply for a job in radio voice overs. He did not get it, but stayed in California and eventually signed a \$150 a week contract with Columbia Pictures, playing small roles in various films.

Not happy with the roles offered to him at the beginning of his film career, Harrison Ford became a self-taught professional carpenter to support his wife and two small sons. While working as a carpenter, he became a stage-hand for the popular rock band *The Doors*. At one point he was hired to build cabinets at the home of director George Lucas, who appreciated his acting talent and in 1973 cast him in a central supporting role for his film *American Graffiti*. Ford's relationship with Lucas profoundly affected his career later on, too. Film director Francis Ford Coppola also hired Harrison Ford to expand his office and then gave him small roles in his next two films. During this early period Ford often came to auditions directly from work still wearing his carpenter's clothes and gear, to subtly remind casting directors that he had other options in life.

Harrison Ford's carpentry work eventually landed him his first starring film role. Ford was one of the carpenters on the set for *Star Wars*, and he was not originally supposed to be Han Solo. But the guy who was did not show up on time and George Lucas got so fed up that he told Harrison Ford to come over and play the part. Lucas was eventually won over by Ford's portrayal of the character, and cast him as Hans Solo. *Star Wars* became one of the most successful movies of all time worldwide, and established Ford as a superstar. In 1981, Ford's status as a leading actor was solidified when he starred as Indiana Jones in the George Lucas and Steven Spielberg collaboration *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. Interestingly, though Spielberg wanted to cast Ford in the lead role from the start, Lucas preferred to give the role to Tom Selleck, but the latter was unable to accept and Ford got the role.

**Directions:** *You will hear a text about **poker** 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.*

Poker is an American tradition. It is a card game that calls for skill, luck and a willingness to take chances. It is played by two or more people. The players bet on the value of their hands and the winner takes the pool. Some experts say poker began in East Asia, others say it is similar to Greek and French games. But wherever it came from, poker has been as American as apple pie since it first became popular in the 1800s.

Poker was considered an important part of life in the Wild West. Many movies show tense conflicts or "showdowns" between cowboys at the poker table. A gunfight usually follows.

"Showdown" is a common expression, one of many that have moved from the poker table to everyday speech. In poker, a showdown is when a player shows his cards to prove he won the game, and all the money.

Today, a "showdown" is a meeting between opposing sides or teams. It is an important meeting, because it will decide who is the winner and who is the loser. A newspaper might report, for example, that the Republicans and the Democrats are headed for a showdown in the Senate tomorrow, when the President's budget comes up for a vote.

When you play poker, you are trying to win the "pot", the money that all the players have bet. A player who thinks he has the best cards will bet as much as he can. He will keep raising bets, "sweetening the pot". For the player who wins, the larger the pot, the sweeter it is.

Away from the poker table, "sweetening the pot" means adding something extra to an offer. For example, a company really wants you to accept a job, but you are happy with your present job. The new company "sweetens the pot" by offering higher pay and use of a company car. Or a trader may decide to add new goods to their present stock in order to promote sales.

Poker players often use round pieces or chips instead of money when they bet. The chips are different colors – red, white and blue. The blue chips always have the highest value. Investors at the New York Stock exchange also talk about "blue chips" – blue chip stocks. These are stocks of companies with long records of high earnings. Thus, blue chip stocks are regarded as the best investments over a long period of time.

Chips are used in another expression that is not as welcome. When you leave a poker game and go home, you cash in your chips, i.e. trade them for real money, for cash. The expression to "cash in one's chips" has also been used for over 100 years to mean to die. If someone tells you his friend "cashed in his chips last week", he means that his friend has passed away.

**Directions:** *You will hear a text about **the Statue of Liberty** 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.*

### **A Noble Gift**

One of the most famous monuments in the world, the Statue of Liberty, was presented to the United States of America in the nineteenth century by the people of France. The great statue, which was designed by the sculptor Auguste Bartholdi, took ten years to complete. The actual figure was made of copper supported by a metal framework which had been especially constructed by Eiffel. Before it could be transported to the United States, a site had to be found for it and a pedestal had to be built. The site chosen was an island at the entrance of New York Harbor. By 1884, a statue which was 151 feet tall, had been erected in Paris. The following year, it was taken to pieces and sent to America. By the end of October 1886, the statue had been put together again and it was officially presented to the American people by Bartholdi. Ever since then, the great monument has been a symbol of liberty for the millions of people who have passed through New York Harbor to make their homes in America.