

МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА ОБРАЗОВАНИЕТО И НАУКАТА
ДЪРЖАВЕН ЗРЕЛОСТЕН ИЗПИТ ПО АНГЛИЙСКИ ЕЗИК

30 август 2021 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

Text One

Directions: *You will hear a short story about a special seal 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.*

Hoover - The Talking Seal

In the 1970s Hoover was the most famous seal in the world! Sadly, however, Hoover didn't have a good start in life. As a baby seal, little Hoover was found completely abandoned and alone on a beach in Maine (USA) in 1971. But thankfully, his mournful calls were heard!

George and Alice Swallow discovered the little seal and took him home to nurse him back to health. In the first few days little Hoover was so stressed that he couldn't manage to eat even the tastiest fish but when he started eating again, he was so hungry that he "hoovered" up one fish after the other (hence the name Hoover after the popular brand of vacuum cleaners!).

Soon George and Alice's bathtub became too small for him - after all, it's in a seal's nature to dive and swim around. That's why he ended up at the New England Aquarium at the age of four months. After a while, a keeper noticed Hoover's unusual gift as he actually tried to impress female seals with human language! It was then that the scientists at the aquarium became very interested in the plump little seal. Why could this seal talk? And why did Hoover have a strong New England accent? They had to know!

Visitors were overjoyed to see the cute new arrival and were always impressed when Hoover spoke like a human. With catchphrases like "hello there" and "get outta here!", he was a sensation! No mammal before him was able to imitate human language as perfectly as him. And guess what dialect Hoover spoke? He spoke with the same accent as George and Alice, of course, as they were like his real parents and he probably wanted to "speak" their language.

Hoover died of old age at the age of 14. Sadly, his descendants weren't as gifted with language as he was.

Text Two

Directions: *You will hear a short story about St. Bernard dogs 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 Brief History of the St. Bernard Rescue Dog

At a little more than 8,000 feet above sea level sits the Great St. Bernard Pass, a 49-mile route in the Western Alps. The pass is only snow free for a couple of months during the summer and has been a treacherous route for many travellers throughout history. In order to help trekkers in trouble, an Augustine monk named St. Bernard de Menthon founded a hospice and monastery around the year 1050.

Sometime between 1660 and 1670, the monks at Great St. Bernard Hospice acquired their first St. Bernards – descendants of the mastiff style Asiatic dogs brought over by the Romans – to serve as their watch dogs and companions. Compared to St. Bernards today, these dogs were smaller in size, had shorter reddish brown and white fur and a longer tail.

During the next 150 years the dogs rescued people on the St. Bernard Pass. It was common practice to send them on rescue missions in pairs: when they found buried travellers, they would dig through the snow together and while one of the dogs would lie on top of the injured to provide warmth, the other dog would return to the hospice to alert the monks of the stranded pilgrim. The system became so organized that when Napoleon and his 250,000 soldiers crossed through the pass between 1790 and 1810, not one soldier lost his life there. The soldiers' chronicles tell of how many lives were saved by the dogs in what the army called "the White Death".

Although in legends casks of liquor were strapped around the dogs' collars to warm up travellers, no historical records exist that document this practice. But another legend was very real: the famous St. Bernard, Barry, who lived in the monastery from 1800-1812, saved the lives of more than 40 people. In 1815, Barry's body was put on exhibit at the Natural History Museum in Berne, Switzerland, where it remains today.

Text Three

Directions: *You will hear a text about a student's culinary experience 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.

My School's Kitchen Catastrophe

Growing up in the 1970s, my views were shaped on the strictly defined gender roles of the traditional patriarchal family. So you can imagine how novel we found it when my public school offered grade 8 boys' cooking as part of the curriculum. I promptly signed up.

At our first class, I looked around at my dozen or so fellow pioneers. Our culinary expertise ranged from "absolutely no cooking experience" to "almost no cooking experience". As a growing boy, I felt hungry all day long. The good news, then, was that we had to eat what we cooked.

However, the bad news was also that we had to eat what we cooked.

We started with a classic, the boiled egg. I was not aware there were so many ways to make a mess of it. Next we made toast, grilled cheese sandwiches, canned spaghetti, French toast and chocolate cookies. By the end of the term, we were feeling confident, even overconfident, in the kitchen.

Then culinary Fortuna interfered. Our culminating assignment was Stuffed Hot Dogs – the grade 8 equivalent of a Ph.D. dissertation. The class was split into teams to make the complex and challenging dish, which involved stuffing sausages full of medium cheddar cheese, wrapping them in strips of bacon anchored by toothpicks, then baking and broiling the entire creation to perfection. To an adolescent boy, hot dogs, cheese and bacon all at once was just heavenly!

The preparation proceeded satisfactorily. Even the baking seemed to progress as intended, the cheese melting and the bacon sizzling. But my team ran into trouble when we turned on the oven to brown our masterpieces. It wasn't our fault; we were distracted by the members of another group, who were extracting their Stuffed Hot Dogs from the oven and placing them on the counter to cool. The aroma was absolutely wonderful. We huddled around those heavenly hot dogs and were entranced, paralyzed ... until clouds of black smoke from our neglected oven abruptly ended our daydreaming.

It was only a small fire, but there seemed to be much more smoke than four incinerated sausages could possibly have produced. Still, we were saluted as that day's heroes, thanks to the fire alarm, ensuing evacuation and early dismissal of the entire student body.