Skills in Mind

Listening comprehension

Listen to the recording of an announcement. Fill in the missing information to complete the table. Choose the correct answer (A, B or C) to complete statement 7. You will hear the recording twice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flight number</th>
<th>(1)</th>
<th>72841</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Departure from</td>
<td>Luton Airport</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Departure time</td>
<td>(2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check-in starts</td>
<td>(3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting place</td>
<td>(4)</td>
<td>Terminal 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting time</td>
<td>5.45 am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting place if late</td>
<td>(5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gate opens</td>
<td>6.15 am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand luggage allowed</td>
<td>Max. (6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. The message is about:
   a. a cruise
   b. a journey by train
   c. a journey by plane

Reading comprehension

Read the text in Task 2 and complete the sentences.
(The phrases used in the text are different from the ones used in the sentences below but their meaning is the same.)

1. Richard Branson is the owner of __________________________________________.
2. Richard Branson’s wife doesn’t __________________________________________.
3. Tourists will have to pay __________________________________________ a ticket.
4. The tourist will spend __________________________________________ before the trip.
5. Each spacecraft has room for __________________________________________.
6. In the spacecraft there will be __________________________________________.
In order to learn how to complete true/false tasks, practice expressing your thoughts using different sentence structures.

- In the text find a sentence that directly corresponds to the sentence in the task.
- Think about the exact meaning of both sentences – if the sentences have the same meaning, mark the statement as True.
- If you cannot find any parts in the text with the same meaning as the sentence in the task, mark the statement as False.

A 7-day holiday for £100,000

‘Space tourism is less than three years away’, Sir Richard Branson has announced. Branson is a British millionaire who owns Virgin Atlantic – a successful airline company. Now he has started Virgin Galactic, a space travel company, and is going to have five tourist spaceliners built in the next few years.

Sir Richard Branson plans to be on the first tourist flight into space. He said his children Holly and Sam and his parents were also interested in going. But his wife Joan is not keen on the idea.

There are already 13,500 regular passengers waiting to buy the £100,000 tickets for the intergalactic trip. Before the flight, Virgin Galactic passengers will have a week-long training in a “space camp” in the Mojave Desert in the USA.

One spacecraft will have seats for eight people - six passengers and two pilots. One pilot will be free to help passengers at any time during the flight. The passengers will be seated in soft, comfortable reclining chairs and will look out at the dark blue sky through several round windows.

During the three-and-half-hour trip the passengers can experience weightlessness, will check out that the Earth is round and enjoy space.

‘If you’re going to build a spaceship, you’ve got to build a green spaceship’, Branson said. That means his spacecraft will be an ecologically-friendly machine. The first spaceliner is going to be completed in 12 months and the test flights will begin soon after.

Text source: http://news.bbc.co.uk and http://www.space.com

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2. Read the text and mark the statements (1–5) True or False. Choose the correct answer (A, B or C) to complete statement 6.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>TRUE</th>
<th>FALSE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Sir Richard Branson designs and builds tourist spaceliners.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Mr Branson is not afraid to go on the first space trip with both his children and two of their grandparents.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Only the Bransons want to travel in Virgin Galactic spaceliners.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 More than six tourists can travel in one spaceship.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 The colour of the first tourist spaceliner will be green.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. The text is about:

a. a space travel project for wealthy tourists.
b. a successful airline company owned by a British millionaire.c. a space travel project for Sir Richard Branson's family.
Communication in Mind

Everyday English

What are the different parts of the postcard below? Fill in the gaps (1 and 2) with appropriate expressions.

1. Guess where I’m writing from – a hot beach in Greece! The weather’s fabulous, the sea is warm and the boys are so cute! Next week I’m starting my diving course. Keep your fingers crossed as the first steps are never easy. Have to finish now – I’m off to a café with this Greek hunk. I’ll be in touch.

2. Lizzie

REVISION TIPS: functional language – putting parts of a text in the correct order

- Greetings and farewell expressions are a standard part of a letter.
- Introduction, middle and end.
- You can work out the order of the sentences by paying attention to the conjunctions (in bold) which introduce new topics/arguments.

Put parts A–G in the correct order to make a letter. Choose the answer (A, B or C) with the correct order.

a. Dear Sir/Madam,

b. Finally, no one informed the e-café users about the plans. I am sure all young residents want to tell the local politicians what we think about their selfish decisions.

c. First of all, we young people do not agree with the decision to replace such a cool meeting place with a boring library for the elderly. There are no other exciting places for young people to meet up and hang around in this town.

d. Secondly, the Internet is our future but it is too expensive. Young people in this town ought to have free access to the Net in a public place.

e. Yours faithfully,
Matt Kolanko

f. To sum up, we will go on marches, start petitions and organise protests unless you politicians change your mind. The young generation can make a difference and we look forward to your positive response!

g. I am writing to express my concern about the plans to close down the only free e-café in our town.

A. a, c, d, b, g, f, e
B. g, c, d, b, f, a, e
C. a, g, c, d, b, f, e
Look at the photos carefully. What are the differences and similarities? Read the description of the photos. Underline the sentence that only matches one of the photos.

In the picture I can see a teenage boy. He has got black hair, which is very curly. He is in his bedroom, lying on the sofa or on the floor. It’s hard to decide because it’s dark in the room. The lights are switched off. Next to the boy, under the blanket, is a small cat, which is looking at the TV screen, too.

The teenager has a dark blanket wrapped around him. But I don’t think he is cold. In my opinion he is afraid. I think he is watching a horror movie and it makes him so scared. You can see the emotion from his facial expression. In his hand the boy is holding a remote control. I think he is going to switch off the scary movie any minute now.

In order to match a description to a photo focus on the differences between the photos.

- Compare each photograph with the description.
- While reading the description, each sentence at a time, underline the information that does not match what you can see in the photo.
- Finish reading the description completely – there may be more than one difference.
- Repeat this procedure for each photo.
- When you find the photo that completely matches the description in every detail you have found the correct answer!

Look at the photos and read the description. Choose the photo (a–c) that best matches the description.

In the photo there is a young couple – a pretty girl and a handsome boy, both in their early twenties. They are wearing casual clothes – trousers and tops - and sitting on a sofa in front of the TV.

The boy is holding a remote control in his hand and he looks really excited. The girl seems very emotional as well. They both have their mouths open. The girl is clenching her fists but she doesn’t look aggressive. She is smiling.

It seems to me that they are watching a football match or another type of competition on TV and it’s the climax of the event right now. They can’t wait to see who wins.

The room where they’re watching TV is full of light and modern furniture. There are simple mirrors in frames on the walls.
Skills in Mind
Reading comprehension

Look at the words in bold in Task 1. Match the words (1–8) with the definitions (A–H) in the table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Word/phrase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>a large piece of land without buildings or farms where people do not live</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>connected with army and soldiers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>no more than</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>continue to live despite a difficult and dangerous situation or time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>causing a lot of problems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>the situation in which people have to live and do things</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>break the rules and behave badly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>in the place of</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REVISION TIPS: reading – multiple-choice tasks
The reading and listening tasks have been prepared in such a way that you do not need to understand all the words in order to complete the tasks correctly. Concentrate on the task and imagine that you are a detective: You will guess the meaning of the words from the context. There are many clues hidden in the text. Make decisions carefully when choosing the answer. Many English words are also used in Italian e.g. privacy, tutor. You may also know similar words from your English classes (e.g. troublesome – trouble, wilderness – wild).

Read the article and choose the correct answers (A, B or C) to questions 1–4.

How to punish teenagers who get in trouble?

Controversial ideas from the USA

BOOT CAMPS. They are like (1) military camps with very strict discipline and extreme shock tactics. Basically, you have a very hard and horrible time there. In a boot camp you do lots of military-style exercises and go marching every day. Sometimes, you also get some regular school lessons or learn how to do a job. If it is their first crime, boys and girls can go there (2) instead of prison or probation. You only have to stay there from 3 to 6 months instead of (3) up to 10 years in prison.

WILDERNESS THERAPY. It is a survival education programme. You set off with a group and have to (4) survive in very difficult (5) conditions. As we all know, deserts, mountains and jungles can be dangerous day and night! It is extremely difficult out there so you have to learn to work as a team, communicate and depend on each other. The instructors do not use any force or military discipline. Communication matters!

TEEN ESCORT COMPANIES. Nowadays, boot camps and (6) wilderness therapy programmes are open to teenagers who are naughty but not criminals. If you (7) misbehave, your parents may decide to pay for your programme (and it is expensive—around $500 a day!). If you are not happy to go, mum and dad can also pay for the services of a special Teen escort company. These people arrive in the middle of the night and take (8) troublesome teens away to the camp. In the US, there are over 20 such youth transport companies.