

MINISTERO DELLA PUBBLICA ISTRUZIONE

Ufficio Scolastico Regionale per la Lombardia Progetto Lingue

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Mock Exam

Livello B 1 sostenuto da Docenti della Scuola Primaria al termine dei Corsi di Formazione di Lingua Inglese nel Giugno 2006 presso l'Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano – Servizio Linguistico di Ateneo

LISTENING

PART I

Questions 1-6

You will hear a report about the history of chewing gum. For each question, put a cross in the correct box.

1.	How much chewing gum do we chew every year?
A □ B □ C □	1000 tons 10,000 tons 100,000 tons
2.	Who invented chewing gum?
A □ B □ C □	
3.	When did the history of modern chewing gum begin?
A □ B □ C □	in the 18th century in the 19th century in the 20th century
4.	What did William Wrigley do to advertise chewing gum in the US?
A □ B □ C □	he advertised in the newspapers he had girls distribute free gum in the streets of Chicago and New York he had huge billboards alongside highways
5.	When did chewing gum become popular outside the United States?

A □ B □ C □	during World War I between the two world wars during World War II
6.	What is today's chewing gum made of?
A □ B □ C □	tree sap and sugar rubber and honey the recipe is secret

PART II

Questions 7-10

Look at the four sentences for this part.

You will hear a report on how the British government helps children with behaviour problems.

Decide if each sentence is correct or incorrect.

If it is correct, put a cross (x) in the box under A for YES.

If it is incorrect, put a cross (x) in the box under B for NO.

	A	В
	YES	NO
7. The children have to do difficult physical activities as a punishment.		
8. After the adventure holiday, the children do better at school.		
9. The holidays cost £700 per child.		
10. Everybody thinks that the government's policy of dealing with badly-		
behaved children is wonderful.		

READING

PART I

Read the text and the questions below.

For each question, mark the letter next to the correct answer – A, B, C or D on your answer sheet.

The Wheel

For me, the wheel is probably the most important invention of all time. It is obviously used to move things and people. However, it is also found in many other machines like clocks, windmills and watermills.

How many of us know when and where the first wheel was invented? I decided to try to find out. The first wheel was invented in Mesopotamia, now part of Iraq, over five thousand years ago. It was first used to help people form clay into bowls and vases in the same way as potters today use a wheel. Wheels were then used in Mesopotamia on carts to transport things.

I also tried to discover what the first wheels were like. They were solid and were made out of wooden planks which were fixed together. Sometimes solid circles of wood cut from tree trunks were used. However, these were not common as the wheel was invented in places where large trees

were not often found. In some places where there was not much wood, stone wheels were used. These were heavy but lasted for a long time.

It was not until three thousand years later that wheels were made lighter by cutting out sections of the wood so that the wheel was not solid. These lighter wheels were much better for vehicles like chariots which were used in battle. At about the same time, people began to put a metal edge round the wheel to make it last longer as it rolled over rough surfaces.

How did people manage to transport things before the wheel was invented? They probably used tree trunks as rollers to help them move heavy building stones. It was hard work to put the tree trunks in place and to balance the load. It is extraordinary to think that enormous blocks of stone were moved in this way.

1 What is the writer's main purpose in writing the text?
 A □ to give the reader information B □ to make the reader want to read more C □ to give his or her opinion. D □ to surprise the reader
 2 What would a reader learn about the first wheels from the text? A □ They were first used to make pots. B □ They were first used to transport heavy building stones. C □ They were first used on carts. D □ They were first used in battle.
3 What was the disadvantage of stone wheels? A □ They lasted a short time. B □ They weighed too much. C □ They were not good to look at. D □ They took long time to get used to.
4 When did people start making wheels that were not solid? A □ 5000 BC B □ 3000 BC C □ 2000 BC D □ 1 AD
5. Which would be the best reaction to this text?
 A □ It is interesting that the wheel was developed in different places. B □ The history of everyday objects is very interesting C □ It is surprising that the wheel was invented so recently. D □ It is amazing how many different ways a wheel can be used

PART 2

Questions 6-10

Look at the sentences below about bullying in schools. Read the passage to decide if each sentence is correct or incorrect. If it is correct, put a cross (x) in the box under A for YES. If it is incorrect, put a cross (x) in the box under B for NO.

	A	В
	YES	NO
6. Most children in British schools have been bullied.		
7. Sometimes bullies use verbal aggression against their victims.		
8. Children who have been bullied are not scared of going to school.		
9. The possibility of legal action against bullies helps stop bullying.		
10. If pupils are bullied in schools, they know that they have the support of		
teachers.		

Bullying is a serious problem. Bullying in schools is a big problem in many countries. In the UK, about 20% of children are bullied in school. Rob Hunter is a head teacher at a school in Yorkshire. Mr Hunter wants to stop the bullies. He says, "We must do more to stop the bullies in our schools. Children who are bullied suffer a lot. They do not want to come to school because of the bullies. They do not enjoy school. This is a serious problem because they do not get a proper education." Bullies do not always fight with other pupils. Usually, bullies say unpleasant things to their victims. The bullies want to make their victims suffer or feel afraid.

Bullies can also do horrible things to their victims out of school. For example, they often send insulting text messages using their mobile phone. In one recent case, an 11-year-old boy was bullied by a group of other boys. The group of bullies hit the boy. At the same time, the bullies made a video clip of the attack using their mobile phone. The bullies sent the video clip to other pupils at the school. Bullies can cause terrible problems. Some victims of bullies suffer so much that they try to commit suicide. Dr Carrie Herbert is an educational consultant from Cambridge, UK. She is very worried about the suffering that bullies cause. Dr Herbert has started a special school in Cambridge for the victims of bullies. Dr Herbert says, "Some children who are bullied are often afraid to go to school. About 50% of the children in my special school have tried to commit suicide. Bullies cause terrible problems for children. When these children grow up, they still suffer."

Teachers and the government in the UK really want to stop the bullies. They are trying different ways to solve the problem. Dr Mike Elsea, a psychologist, says that there should be "safe areas" inside the school. In these safe areas, children will know that the bullies cannot hurt them. Dr Elsea also says that children must not be afraid to tell teachers or their parents about bullies at school. In some cases, it is possible to take legal action against bullies. When the bullies understand that there is a danger of legal action, they almost always stop. Most schools now are trying to stop the bullies. This is good for the victims of bullies. The victims know that they can tell the teacher if they are bullied. Bullies always try to bully pupils that appear weak. So the victims of bullies must try to be strong. They must show that they do not care when the bullies say or do unpleasant things. When the victims of bullies really do not care, they show that they are stronger than the bullies.

WRITING

This is part of a letter you receive from an English friend.

We are doing a project at school on celebrations in different countries. Write and tell me about a special celebration in your country. When is it? What do you do? What do you eat?

Now you are writing a letter to this friend. Write your letter in about 100 words in the space provided below.					

KEY AND MARKING SCHEME

LISTENING

Award 1.5 points for each correct answer. Maximum score 15/15

PART I

1. C 2. C 3. B 4. B 5. C 6. C

PART II

7. B 8. A 9. B 10. B

READING

Award 1.5 points for each correct answer. Maximum score 15/15

PART I

1. A 2. A 3. B 4. D 5. D

PART II

6. B 7. A 8. B 9. A 10. A

WRITING

Mark out of 15, assigned according to the performance "bands" described in the

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TAPESCRIPTS

LISTENING PART I

Today in Worldly Wise, the world's most common habit... Yes, chewing gum! We chew 100,000 tons of it every year but how many of us actually know what it's made of?

- Excuse me, I see you're chewing gum...
- Yeah.
- *Have you got any idea what it's made of?*
- Nah... no idea. Never thought about it.
- Have you any idea what chewing gum is made of?
- *Er... no, not a clue. Rubber maybe?*
- And do you have any idea who invented it?
- *The Americans?*
- Yeah, sure. I reckon it was invented in America, yeah.
- Well, no. It wasn't the Americans who invented chewing gum. It was the Swedes. The Swedes, I hear you say? But listen to Leanne Ward, a chewing gum expert.
- The history of chewing goes back thousands of years. In Sweden, in 1993, the skeleton of a teenager was found, he was nine thousand years old. And in his mouth was a gum made of tree sap and sweetened with honey... the first known chewing gum.
- The history of modern chewing gum begins in 19th-century America. In 1892 a clever young salesman called William Wrigley decided that chewing gum was the thing of the future. Wrigley was a business genius. He was the first to use advertising to sell in a big way. Here's Leanne.
- William Wrigley was really an advertising genius. He hired hundreds of pretty girls, who he called *the Wrigley girls*. They walked up and down the streets of Chicago and New York City handing out free gum. Millions of pieces were given away. He also had huge electric signs and billboards... one billboard was one mile long, it ran along the side of the train track. So with all this, chewing gum became very popular all over the USA.
- So how did the world get to know and love chewing gum? Leanne again.
- Well, during the Second World War American soldiers were given *Wrigley gum* to help them relax. In 1944 <u>all</u> gum production went to the US army and they took their gum overseas and gave it to children. Soon they were followed everywhere by the cry: 'Got any gum, chum?'.
- And so the popularity of gum spread to other countries. After the war sales of gum exploded worldwide. Chewing gum was even taken into space by the first astronauts. So what exactly is it made of?
- Well, the strangest thing about gum today is that nobody knows what it's made of. Nobody will tell you. The chewing gum industry keeps the recipe top secret.

LISTENING PART II

The British government has found an unusual way to help schoolchildren who stay away from school or cause trouble in class. Instead of punishing these children, the government has decided to send them on an adventure holiday.

The children go to adventure centres in Britain and in other countries. At the adventure centres, the children have to work very hard. They have to do a lot of difficult activities. The activities test how brave the children are. They also help the children learn how to solve problems together.

When the children return from their adventure holiday, they are more enthusiastic about school. Their schoolwork improves.

The adventure holidays cost £600 per pupil. Some people do not agree that the government should pay for the holidays. They say that it is wrong to give badly-behaved children a free holiday in order to make them attend school.