

「1級リスニングテスト」原稿

ただいまから、1 級リスニングテストを行います。これからお話しすることについて質問は受けませんので、よく注意して聞いてください。なお、リスニングテスト放送中に音飛びや騒音があった場合は、発生した問題のトラックのはじめに戻し、やり直します。しかしながら、万が一、教室監督者が気づかない場合は速やかに手を挙げてお知らせ願います。このテストでは、テストの方法と注意事項がすべて英語で放送されます。

The listening test for the Grade 1 examination is about to begin. Listen carefully to the directions. You will not be permitted to ask questions during the test.

This test has four parts. All of the questions in these four parts are multiple-choice questions. For each question, choose the best answer from among the four choices written in your test booklet. On your answer sheet, find the number of the question and mark your answer. You are permitted to take notes for every part of this listening test.

Now, here are the directions for **Part 1**. In this part, you will hear 10 dialogues, **No. 1** through **No. 10**. Each dialogue will be followed by one question. For each question, you will have 10 seconds to choose the best answer and mark your answer on your answer sheet. The dialogue and the question will be given only once. Now, we will begin the Grade 1 listening test.

(★=男性 A ★★=男性 B ☆=女性 A ☆☆=女性 B)

☆☆No. 1

★: Have you taken History 202?

☆: Of course, it's compulsory. It would probably be empty if it weren't.

★: What do you mean by that?

☆: Well, frankly, Professor Romanov can be rather intimidating. He often makes fun of students when he feels their assignments aren't satisfactory.

★: Gee. How did you cope with him?

☆: Hmm. It's essential to seek clarification in the event that you're unsure about something. And he's very strict about grammar and punctuation in essays.

☆☆**Question:** What does the woman tell the man about the class?

★★No. 2

☆: Did the meeting go OK yesterday, Xavier?

★: Well, there was some very hard bargaining, but in the end, they did award us the contract.

☆: That's a relief. Has a deadline for the shipment been set yet?

★: It'll probably be around mid-April, but there are still some ongoing discussions with our factories about how to split up the manufacturing.

☆: OK, can you let me know when something's been decided?

★: Will do.

★★**Question:** What is one thing that the man says about the meeting?

★★No. 3

★: Have you heard of that PowerMax company so many people are investing in these days?

☆☆: I'm rather skeptical about it, quite frankly. Do you think its technology really has the potential to revolutionize the industry the way people are claiming it does?

★: I'm no scientist, but from what I've seen in the media, there aren't many people doubting their claims.

☆☆: Hmm. I'm not convinced about that. Plus, a lot of competitors are likely to spring up. I can't help feeling the shares are overvalued.

★: Well, I'm going to purchase some.

★★Question: What is one thing that the woman implies about PowerMax?

★No. 4

★★: Well, that was quite a meeting. I couldn't believe the way Peter was trying to flatter the boss. Did you see her expression?

☆☆: I did. And I don't blame her. It was so obvious that Peter's compliments were insincere.

★★: I guess he's hoping it will pay off when it comes time to promote someone.

☆☆: Right, but it'll have the opposite effect if he isn't careful.

★★: I agree. He just doesn't know how to read people.

★Question: What do the people imply about Peter?

☆☆No. 5

☆☆: Have you decided which candidate to vote for in the election, Vikram?

★★: I'm having trouble making up my mind between Amanda Pearson and David Chow.

☆☆: Personally, I'm leaning toward Pearson since she would bring a fresh perspective to city hall. She has so many innovative plans, especially for public transport.

★★: That's certainly true. I'm impressed by Chow's stance on affordable housing, though.

☆☆: Well, that is a critical issue.

★★: I'd also like to know more about Chow's economic policies, especially about reducing the city's debt.

☆☆**Question:** What does the woman say about Amanda Pearson?

☆☆No. 6

★: Don't forget there's going to be a citywide tornado drill during school tomorrow.

☆☆: Thanks for reminding me! What time? I missed the faculty meeting yesterday.

★: At 10:15. By the way, since you're teaching younger children, you might want to have a word with them about it in advance.

☆☆: What do you mean?

★: Well, it could be traumatic since they're so young. And there's a popular movie out right now about a tornado, so they may have seen a lot of frightening images.

☆☆: Thanks. That sounds like good advice.

☆☆**Question:** What advice does the man give the woman?

★No. 7

★★: Did you notice Patel's expression when Amy mentioned his financial struggles during dinner last night?

☆☆: Yeah, he looked quite offended.

★★: She must know that it's a very sensitive topic for him, especially because we were in a public setting.

☆☆: Maybe we should discreetly mention it to her.

★★: I think we definitely should. He's not going to want to spend time with her if she keeps bringing things like that up.

★Question: What do the people imply about Amy?

★★No. 8

☆: Have you heard about the plans to build a wind farm on the cliffs at Bluff Point?

★: Yes. It's terrible, isn't it? It'll ruin the natural beauty of the area.

☆: I'm on the fence about it, to be honest. It'll change the landscape, for sure, but renewable energy is important, and it'll provide jobs for local people.

★: Yes, but a lot of tourists are attracted to this area because of the scenery. If they stop coming, shops and hotels will suffer.

☆: That's true.

★★Question: What is one thing the man thinks about the wind farm?

☆☆No. 9

★: Thank you for meeting today, Ms. Chen. As the program coordinator for this year's international research conference, I was asked to refine the structure so it feels more inclusive.

☆: Of course. I looked over your outline. You are expecting about two hundred participants, right?

★: Yes. In past years, most plenary talks and major panels were led by senior researchers, while junior scholars were placed in less attended morning sessions. The board wants them to have a more visible role.

☆: One option is to pair early-career presenters with senior researchers. If the researchers introduce the core questions and guide the Q and A, junior speakers can present confidently without lowering the academic level.

★: That would address one concern. Several senior professors said sessions sometimes felt uneven because styles and pacing varied. Structured guidance could help keep the flow consistent.

☆: What about the issue of networking? Last year, people said the schedule was so tight they had little time to meet new colleagues.

★: I am considering shortening the keynote addresses and extending the poster sessions. Survey feedback showed posters generated the most genuine exchanges, especially for first-time presenters.

☆: I agree. If younger researchers feel the conference supports their development, attendance will likely grow in future years.

★: That is our hope. A more balanced program could also convince departments to fund

additional early-career travel grants next year.

☆☆**Question:** What does the conversation suggest about the new conference plan?

☆☆**No. 10**

☆: The accounts department just informed me that spending on marketing for the second quarter was already over budget by almost \$20,000.

★: Sorry, Joanne. I was planning to explain this at tomorrow's meeting. As you're aware, a competitor launched a similar AI-imaging product earlier than expected, so Steve and I felt it was essential to pivot quickly and increase our ad spending to maintain market visibility.

★★: I guess we should've run it by you, Joanne, but we saw an opportunity to get ahead of the game.

☆: I understand, Steve, and it's not that I don't trust you, as you're both highly experienced. However, this could lead to a cash-flow shortfall, which would negatively impact other expenditures, such as those for training.

★★: Actually, I already looked into that. Based on my calculations, the company still has plenty of cash on hand to cover such budgets. Additionally, we've implemented measures to reduce our third-quarter marketing budget to take account of the additional expenditure now.

★: Yeah, the ad campaign we're contracted for will run through the third quarter as well, so, from that perspective, it's a move that should lead to substantially greater sales over the longer term.

☆: Got it. But no such moves in the future without my say-so.

☆☆**Question:** What do the men tell the woman?

Here are the directions for **Part 2**. In this part, you will hear five passages, (A) through (E). Each passage will be followed by two questions, **No. 11** through **No. 20**. For each question, you will have 10 seconds to choose the best answer and mark your answer on your answer sheet. The passage and the questions will be given only once. Now, let's begin.

★★(A) *Kew Gardens*

Kew Gardens in London is renowned for its plant collections from around the world. These days, collections are created in collaboration with international partners, and Kew's science programs focus on protecting biodiversity and examining the useful properties of flora for the benefit of all. However, during the period of historical British colonial expansion, Britain made extensive efforts to secure valuable resources, and collected plants were sent back to Kew. There, they were not simply studied for botanical purposes but were also examined and cultivated with commercial gain for Britain in mind.

This so-called economic botany had a profound effect as plants from one part of the world were then cultivated elsewhere. For example, the rubber tree is native to South America, and Brazil essentially had a monopoly on the rubber trade. However, in the latter half of the nineteenth century, the British extracted thousands of rubber seeds from Brazil and sent them to Kew. Inside its greenhouses, some seeds germinated and were then sent to places in Asia, such as Malaya, where they thrived. As the demand for rubber increased, British-run plantations rapidly expanded and produced cheap rubber, helping to undercut the Brazilian rubber industry.

☆☆**Questions**

☆☆No. 11 What is one thing the speaker says about Kew Gardens?

☆☆No. 12 What is one point the speaker makes in the story about rubber?

☆☆(B) *Adolescent Brains and the Law*

In 2005, the US Supreme Court banned the execution of criminals under the age of eighteen. One reason for the decision was research into the development of the adolescent brain. Scientists have discovered that the prefrontal cortex, a brain region responsible for decision-making and behavioral regulation, takes longer to mature than most other brain regions. This helps explain why adolescents frequently fail to consider consequences or resist risky behavior, and limits their criminal responsibility. Such findings were cited in the Supreme Court's decision.

Some said this was inconsistent with past decisions that argued that adolescents had sufficient mental capacity to make their own decisions. However, some researchers stress that there are different types of thinking. So-called cold cognition involves logical thinking in calm settings. The researchers say that people's logical abilities tend to reach adult levels by age sixteen. This supports policies allowing teens to vote or make medical decisions for themselves. In contrast, decision-making under emotional or peer pressure is known as "hot cognition." This requires control over emotions and urges, which depends on a fully developed prefrontal cortex. Therefore, it makes sense for the legal system to distinguish between rational decision-making and impulse control in stressful situations.

★★Questions

★★No. 13 What is one thing that we learn about the prefrontal cortex?

★★No. 14 What do some researchers believe about sixteen-year-olds?

☆☆(C) *Gonzo Journalism*

In traditional journalism, reporters are expected to remain objective. That is, they must verify facts through multiple sources, remain neutral, and present their story in a controlled tone that avoids personal judgment. In the early 1970s, however, a writer named Hunter S. Thompson rejected this approach, developing a new reporting style known as gonzo journalism. Thompson's articles included the reporter as a central figure, documenting his interactions and thoughts as the situation developed around him. This style drew heavily on techniques from fiction, including vivid description, emotional language, and dramatic scenes.

In his famous series of articles entitled "Fear and Loathing on the Campaign Trail in '72," Thompson followed the US presidential race while openly describing his biases, moods, and personal encounters with politicians and campaign staff. He frequently relied on rumor and dramatic exaggeration, and he did not always distinguish clearly between verified events and his own interpretations. As a result, some details in his reporting were inaccurate or overstated. Nevertheless, many readers felt that his subjective style revealed truths about the campaign's mood that straightforward reporting failed to capture. Today, gonzo journalism is recognized as an influential style that continues to challenge traditional ideas about objectivity in reporting.

★★Questions

★No. 15 What is one thing that we learn about Hunter S. Thompson's articles?

★No. 16 What is one thing that we learn about "Fear and Loathing on the Campaign Trail in '72"?

☆☆(D) *Mekong Delta*

The Mekong Delta in Vietnam has been experiencing serious erosion, with hundreds of hectares being lost annually. While several complex interlinked factors are at work, including climate change, rising sea levels, and land subsidence, some reports indicate that one key driver is anthropogenic sediment depletion. For example, sand mining along the Mekong River for economic development purposes can cause riverbanks to weaken and collapse. Additionally, upstream activities such as dam construction mean that the flow of sediment that would naturally have reached the delta in the past to replenish losses is being disrupted. In addition to destroying important habitats, this so-called sediment starvation has also forced residents from some areas vulnerable to erosion.

To reduce the threats posed by this phenomenon, long-term coastal management strategies are being implemented. These are often backed by the Vietnamese government, which has committed hundreds of millions of dollars to boost the delta's long-term resilience. Efforts include rock structures specifically designed as breakwaters, dissipating wave energy, and encouraging the accumulation of sediment. Such measures can help provide the environmental conditions necessary to implement nature-based solutions, including the replanting of mangrove and other forests, which have been shown to reduce erosion risks.

★★Questions

★★No. 17 What have some reports revealed about the Mekong Delta?

★★No. 18 What does the speaker say about attempts to protect the delta?

★(E) *The Paradox of Choice*

In 2004, psychologist Barry Schwartz wrote that, for consumers in modern society, having some choices was essential for self-autonomy and well-being. However, he contended that processing the overabundance of options available—from breakfast cereals to insurance plans—required so much cognitive effort that it could lead to anxiety, regret, dissatisfaction, and even decision paralysis. Schwartz believed that “maximizers,” who always seek the optimal option available, were more vulnerable to this paradox of choice than “satisficers,” who settle for an option after certain standards are met. Despite this, critics noted that some experiments to replicate Schwartz's contention yielded little evidence to support it.

Due to the proliferation of shopping, investment, insurance, and other services, consumers today are bombarded with more choices than ever, suggesting the ongoing relevance of the paradox of choice. However, some commentators point out that consumers can utilize techniques such as filtering to make decision-making less overwhelming. For example, when using streaming services, viewers may choose a particular genre of film to reduce their options. Additionally, AI tools can help consumers evaluate options and narrow their choices, as well as provide personalized results that better fit their needs.

☆Questions

☆No. 19 What is one point that Barry Schwartz made?

☆No. 20 What is one thing some commentators say about consumers today?

Here are the directions for **Part 3**. In this part, you will hear five passages, (F) through (J). The passages represent real-life situations and may contain sound effects. Each passage will have one question, **No. 21** through **No. 25**. Before each passage, you will have 10 seconds to read the situation and question written in your test booklet. After you hear the passage, you will have 10 seconds to choose the best answer and mark your answer on your answer sheet. The passage will be given only once. Now, let's begin.

★★(F) You have 10 seconds to read the situation and Question No. 21.

☆☆Hi, Marcus. Sorry to bother you while you're working, but I need a favor. I realized I forgot my house key, so I won't be able to get in when I come home from work this evening. I'll be leaving the office at about five thirty, so I should get home by around six thirty. I called Jarvis to see if he'd be at home, but he said he'd be out until late with his university friends. So, I need to drop by your office on the way home to borrow your key. I'll be there at about six. If you're not going to be there or are busy with something, could you leave the key at the reception desk like you did last time? Or, if you think you'll be at home by six thirty, could you give me a call? Thanks!

★★Now mark your answer on your answer sheet.

★(G) You have 10 seconds to read the situation and Question No. 22.

☆☆We received a lot of applications, so I've picked out the top-four candidates' writing samples. Nina Smith's sample had flawless grammar and structure, and she has extensive experience with this type of work. On the other hand, I found her writing rather formal and stiff. Evan Wallis has a real talent for making the products stand out, and he has a very entertaining style. He's not used to our software, and there were a number of grammar slipups, though. Michelle Clark's descriptions made the products sound appealing without overselling them. Her writing is extremely polished as well. She's based overseas, but I'm not sure if that's an issue or not. We also received a sample from Leo Taylor. I thought it had the most creativity. His writing shows a lack of attention to detail, though, as the punctuation was awful. His availability is a bit limited as well.

★Now mark your answer on your answer sheet.

☆☆(H) You have 10 seconds to read the situation and Question No. 23.

★★Ground-cover plants vary widely in how they behave after they've been planted. English ivy is frequently used because it stays green year-round, and it grows rapidly, even in shade. However, that also means it has a tendency to overwhelm nearby plants. Common periwinkle is another popular choice. It produces attractive flowers and is fine in areas with limited sunshine. On the other hand, it can be invasive if left unchecked. Then there's wild ginger. It forms an attractive green carpet and produces small flowers in spring. It adapts well to shaded environments and expands at a very gradual pace rather than overtaking everything around it. Lastly, creeping thyme is often recommended for ground cover. While it smells wonderful and attracts pollinators, it generally requires brighter conditions to thrive and may thin out over time in darker areas. It's not at all invasive, though.

☆☆Now mark your answer on your answer sheet.

★★(I) You have 10 seconds to read the situation and Question No. 24.

☆☆The conference will be held on October 5 and 6 at Charwick International Forum. Presentations will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on both days. The first day will cover the history of AI, and the second day will focus on using AI tools to improve time management and productivity in the workplace. If you're attending both days, you can register through our website up until the day before the conference. The registration fee is eighty dollars per person.

If you wish to attend only on one of the days, you'll have to register in person on that day. In that case, the fee will be fifty dollars per day. There's also an optional workshop on AI and data privacy on the evening of the first day. You'll need to register online for that, and there's an additional fee of thirty dollars.

★★Now mark your answer on your answer sheet.

☆☆(J) You have 10 seconds to read the situation and Question **No. 25**.

★Good afternoon, shoppers. Please note there are a few temporary changes in our store's operation this week due to construction and renovation work. The fresh seafood counter will be closed until 1:00 p.m. today. In the meantime, a selection of frozen fish is available from a smaller display near aisle 10, opposite the baked goods. For customers who wish to make product returns or exchanges, the service counter has temporarily relocated to the stationery section, located beside aisle 3. If you wish to exchange large or fragile items, please speak to a staff member before lining up. Finally, we're offering a special discount this month on reusable plastic shopping bags. The bags are available at all checkout counters and in the area by the escalators. Thank you for your patience and understanding. We hope you enjoy your shopping experience at GrandMart.

☆☆Now mark your answer on your answer sheet.

Finally, here are the directions for **Part 4**. In this part, you will hear an interview. The interview will be followed by two questions, **No. 26** and **No. 27**. For each question, you will have 10 seconds to choose the best answer and mark your answer on your answer sheet. The interview and the questions will be given only once.

★★This is an interview with Lewis Mansell, a conference and event organizer.

Interviewer (I): Today, we have Lewis Mansell with us. Lewis, could you first describe your primary responsibilities?

Lewis (L): Sure. My duties vary depending on the type of event, whether it's an academic or scientific conference, or a commercial event, for example, but there are many overlapping elements. Obviously, if a conference goes smoothly, participants only see the seamless completed product, but the work to make that happen often begins a year or more in advance. I work with a team, of course, but my responsibilities range from initial consultations with the client hosting the event, such as a trade organization or an educational organization, to site selection, convention center contracts, schedule coordination, and budget control.

I: And what would you say is the greatest challenge you face?

L: There are several challenges. At most events, there are usually workshops, product exhibitions, or presentations going on simultaneously, but we try to arrange events so that they overlap as little as possible, giving conference attendees the chance to experience as many sessions or visit as many booths as possible. However, the biggest issue for me is that, while clients understandably want as much value for their money as possible, costs can quickly spiral out of control if you don't keep a handle on them. Last year, at a large international education conference, the client suddenly requested large high-definition displays for all the conference halls to showcase various products and services. We do our utmost to accommodate such requests. In this particular case, however, we calculated that it would only be possible if

substantial cost cutting were done elsewhere, such as on marketing, equipment provision for the booths, and the number of event staff. Therefore, we had to be firm and push back. Since the client had no flexibility with the overall budget, that was a no-go.

I: What kind of skill sets or personality traits are essential for someone considering jumping into this career?

L: Overall, I would say that we spend a lot of time negotiating with various parties, including clients, hotel managers, conference center staff, booth representatives, delivery companies, and so on. So communication skills are the bedrock. Despite our best efforts, even the best-laid plans can go awry. I have witnessed a walkout by some unionized conference center staff, and one conference got hit by a snowstorm just a few hours before it was due to start, which led to a power outage and disrupted logistics for several hours. So, you need to be adaptable when things don't quite go to plan, and be able to handle complaints or concerns from clients or booth representatives calmly and professionally.

I: OK, and how do you see the role of conference organizer evolving in the future?

L: Well, I think the future has already arrived in some ways. We've seen the rise of hybrid events where we host in-person and digital audiences simultaneously. Technological developments have been significant, of course. We utilize technology such as heat mapping to gauge booth popularity, for example. We're also introducing AI to optimize efficiencies in terms of budget allocation and schedule coordination, as well as data analytics regarding attendee participation. I don't think AI will replace us, nor is it intended to. Rather, I see it as a companion, helping us to navigate the complexities of our job and ultimately providing both clients and attendees with the most satisfying experience possible.

I: Well, thank you, Lewis.

L: It was my pleasure.

★★Questions

★★No. 26 What does Lewis Mansell say is the biggest challenge he faces in his work?

★★No. 27 What is one thing that Lewis says to would-be conference organizers?

Your time is up. Stop writing and wait quietly until the answer sheets have been collected.

では、時間です。筆記用具を置いて答えの記入をやめてください。これにて試験終了となります。公正なる試験実施にご協力いただきありがとうございました。質問がある方は、ただちに試験監督者にお申し出ください。

試験監督者に連絡いたします。これより最終の受験者数を確認してください。その後、解答用紙を回収し枚数の確認を行ってください。なお、問題冊子は回収しません。受験者数と解答用紙の枚数の一致を確認してから、解散の指示を出してください。

受験者の皆さんは、身のまわりをよく点検し、忘れものがないように注意してください。受験者の皆さんが退室するときは、別の教室が試験中の場合もありますので、声を出さず、会場出口まで静かに退出してください。それでは、解散の指示を出すまで静かにお待ちください。