

「準1級リスニングテスト」原稿

ただいまから、準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 Pre-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 three parts. All of the questions in these three 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 12 dialogues, **No. 1** through **No. 12**. 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 Pre-1 listening test.

(★=男性 A ★★=男性 B ☆=女性 A ☆☆=女性 B)

★★No. 1

★: Did you switch language-learning apps? I thought you liked WordMaster.

☆☆: It was user-friendly, and the grammatical explanations were good, but I got bored of the activities after a while.

★: What are you using now?

☆☆: It's called LinguaLearn. It has a wider variety of lessons, so I don't lose interest. I've been studying much more since I installed it.

★: Is it expensive?

☆☆: No. You can use the basic features for free, but I pay a small amount each month for unlimited access to all of the features.

★★**Question:** What does the woman say about LinguaLearn?

★No. 2

★★: How's that online personal finance course you started taking?

☆☆: The teacher is fantastic, and I've learned a lot, especially about taxes. But my work has been so demanding lately. I'm really struggling to find time for the class.

★★: That's unfortunate. Are you going to keep trying to do it?

☆☆: I'm afraid I've had to put the course on hold for now.

★★: That's too bad. Maybe you can pick it up again once things calm down at work.

☆☆: I hope so. I paid a lot of money for it.

★**Question:** What does the woman say about the course?

★No. 3

★★: I've finished the energy audit for your house, and I've got a few recommendations.

☆: OK. What do you have in mind?

★★: First, some of your windows aren't airtight. I suggest you take care of that before winter to save on gas for heating.

☆: My gas bill isn't really an issue, to be honest. I'm more interested in reducing my electric bill.

★★: Well, some of your appliances are outdated. You should consider buying new ones that are more energy efficient.

★Question: What is the woman's main concern?

☆No. 4

☆☆: Dinner's ready, Jake.

★★: I don't want any, thanks. I'm going out.

☆☆: What? I thought I told you to let me know when you won't be at home for meals. I wouldn't have bothered cooking if I'd known you were going out.

★★: Sorry. I completely forgot about it. My friend just called me to find out why I'm late.

☆☆: Well, I'm fed up with cooking meals you don't eat. If this happens again, I'll stop cooking for you at all.

★★: OK, I get it. I'll tell you from now on.

☆**Question:** Why is the woman annoyed with the man?

★No. 5

★★: Are you going to the wine tasting event the company is sponsoring?

☆: I'm not sure. There were some tasty wines last year, but most of the ones on sale afterward were over my budget.

★★: You don't have to buy anything. It's a good opportunity to learn a bit about various wines.

☆: True, but after tasting some of them, I was quite tempted by them. I just wish there were some more-affordable ones.

★★: Places are limited, so you'd better decide soon.

★Question: What does the woman say about the wine tasting event?

☆No. 6

☆☆: Hi. I want to send this package by overnight delivery.

★: Sorry, but this store's no longer a Ship-X drop-off point.

☆☆: But I just checked their web page, and you're on the list.

★: We stopped last week, so I guess it hasn't been updated yet.

☆☆: I see. Do you know of any other drop-off points in the area?

★: I think the drugstore on Maple Avenue takes them. I can call them if you like.

☆☆: It's OK. I'll go there now.

☆**Question:** What will the woman do?

★No. 7

☆☆: Dad, can I talk to you about university?

★★: Sure. What's up?

☆☆: Don't get mad, but I'm thinking about dropping out and getting a job instead.

★★: But I thought it was your dream to become a researcher.

☆☆: I know, but I think I made the wrong choice. I just don't have the passion that's needed for research.

★★: Well, will you at least speak to your academic adviser before making a decision? I'm sure there are other career options for biology majors.

☆☆: OK, Dad. I'll make an appointment.

★Question: What is one thing the woman tells her father?

★No. 8

☆☆: Do you think we should offer the job to Ayaka Sugimoto? Her interview was impressive.

★★: She is highly qualified. She's fluent in English, and her experience matches our requirements very well.

☆☆: I have a feeling that she might decline our offer, though.

★★: Why do you say that?

☆☆: According to her application, she was earning more at her previous company than we could pay her.

★★: Hmm. Well, I think we should contact her and see what she says.

★Question: What is the woman's concern about the job applicant?

☆☆No. 9

☆: Ricardo, I'm impressed. I just reviewed your project, and it looked great.

★★: Thanks, Ms. Johnson. I appreciate the feedback.

☆: And you finished ahead of schedule. That's even better.

★★: Well, I had a few extra hours I could put in last week, so I was able to get it done.

☆: Yes, but you still could have delayed finishing until the deadline if you had needed to. I know this was a complicated project.

★★: I'm glad I was able to complete it with the quality it deserved.

☆☆**Question:** What does the woman say about the project?

★★No. 10

★: Can we talk about our credit card bills? We're spending about \$200 more each month than we did last year. I know prices have gone up, but not that much.

☆: Well, I only use cash at a few family-run stores now because most stores accept credit cards. And we get rewards that give us discounts on many items.

★: But if we don't make the payments on time, won't the card company charge us interest?

☆: Yes, but now I transfer more of my salary into the account, so there's always enough to pay on time.

★★Question: What is one thing the woman tells the man?

☆☆No. 11

☆: Dad, can you give me some advice? My teacher told me about a math contest in April, and she thinks I should enter.

★: You've done well on your assignments, so why not?

☆: I'm worried because I don't do well under pressure. What if I perform poorly?

★: You'll never know if you don't try. You don't need to worry about winning. Just do your best. I'll be there to support you, too.

☆: OK. Thanks. I'll tell my teacher.

☆☆Question: What do we learn from this conversation?

★★No. 12

★: So, honey, are you excited about our trip to Italy this summer?

☆: Of course. Billy still needs a passport, though—have you submitted the application for it at the post office yet?

★: Not yet. For a child's passport, you need to ask someone to sign the application to confirm the child's identity, and it can't be a family member.

☆: Well, I'm sure his teacher would agree to do it. Let's try to get the application in by the end of this week.

★★Question: What will the couple probably do first?

Here are the directions for **Part 2**. In this part, you will hear six passages, (A) through (F). Each passage will be followed by two questions, **No. 13** through **No. 24**. 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) *Farming in the Desert*

As the climate crisis worsens, deserts are expanding worldwide. As a result, some farmland is gradually turning into sandy ground that cannot hold water well. This makes it difficult for crops to survive, even when farmers irrigate the soil or add fertilizer containing nutrients to it. To address this problem, scientists performed an experiment using material made from pineapples. Their skins were shredded into thin, soft strings and added to the soil. This material helped soil stick together better, allowing it to better absorb moisture.

In early trials, cherry tomato plants grown in the treated soil stayed healthier and needed less frequent watering. It also helped the ground hold fertilizer better. Because the materials come from waste products, the method could also reduce environmental harm. Furthermore, it has potential as an efficient solution that would not need to be reapplied frequently since a single treatment lasts for multiple growing seasons.

☆☆Questions

☆☆No. 13 What did scientists do in the experiment?

☆☆No. 14 What is mentioned as an advantage of the new technique?

☆(B) *Third Places*

Social scientists often study so-called third places, such as local coffee shops, hair salons, libraries, and parks, where people can interact informally outside of their homes and workplaces. Some towns and cities have seen a decline in third places. Reasons may include rising real estate costs, increased commercialization, or urban planning that prioritizes cars rather than walkable neighborhoods. Such developments mean people are less likely to bump into friends, meet new people, or maintain community bonds.

Developments in digital communication may also have an effect. For example, many people increasingly utilize home entertainment options, such as gaming or streaming, rather than venturing out. On the other hand, digital communication has led to the rise of virtual third places, using social media platforms, for example. While some reports question whether they are a substitute for the social interaction that physical third places provide, virtual third places have become increasingly significant.

★★Questions

★★No. 15 What is one trend the speaker identifies?

★★No. 16 What does the speaker say in relation to digital communication?

★★(C) *Hammerhead Sharks*

Although some hammerhead shark species are threatened due to habitat loss or being overfished, scientists do not know enough about them. A new environmental DNA test that utilizes seawater samples may improve that situation. It is hoped that the test will help locate and measure the number of sharks more accurately, without the need for capture or direct underwater monitoring.

As sharks swim through the ocean, they produce waste and shed skin containing their DNA. By examining this DNA in seawater samples, scientists hope to identify habitats where hammerheads need more protection. With this and other ecological knowledge, they can recommend conservation actions, such as tighter fishing restrictions, before the animals become extinct. What is more, the samples, which are relatively cheap to collect, can be stored for a long period of time, allowing for future studies of other aquatic species that have left their DNA traces in seawater.

☆☆Questions

☆☆No. 17 What does the speaker say is one feature of the new test?

☆☆No. 18 What is one thing scientists hope to do?

☆☆(D) *The Statute Cap*

In the late sixteenth century, England introduced an unusual law. The Statute of Apparel stated that all males over the age of six, with the exception of lords and other members of the nobility, had to wear a plain woolen cap on Sundays and holidays. The law also specified that the caps should be made in England, and the penalty for noncompliance was a small fine. The required headwear became commonly known as a “statute cap.”

The primary goal of the Statute of Apparel was to create compulsory demand for products made by English cap makers, whose trade was suffering due to changing fashion trends and competition from foreign imports. Unfortunately, the law was difficult to enforce, and it failed to provide the lasting economic stimulus the government had hoped for. As a result, it was scrapped

by the end of the century.

★★Questions

★★No. 19 What is true about the Statute of Apparel?

★★No. 20 What is one thing the speaker says about the law?

★(E) *James Arthur Harley*

Born on the Caribbean island of Antigua in 1873, James Arthur Harley, despite facing racism, had a remarkable career. After working as a teacher, he moved to the United States to become a priest. However, he was rejected by the prestigious religious training institute he wanted to attend. Instead, he went to a university for Black students, where he studied law. Later, he attended Yale and Harvard Universities before traveling to Britain to study at Oxford University.

Harley was a gifted academic who was awarded prizes, but he decided to become a priest in Britain. He was said to be a popular, inspiring speaker in church. During World War I, he quit being a priest and applied to join the armed forces. However, his application was denied, so he worked in a weapons factory. After the war, he became a local politician, taking up the interests of the working class.

☆Questions

☆No. 21 Why did James Arthur Harley leave Antigua?

☆No. 22 What does the speaker say about Harley during World War I?

☆(F) *Biophobia*

The term “biophobia” refers to strong negative feelings toward nature, such as fear or discomfort around animals or in natural settings. Researchers say these feelings tend to be especially prevalent in urban areas and can strengthen quickly, for example, after dramatic media coverage of people being injured by wild animals or natural disasters. A recent study reviewed multiple scientific papers and created a framework to explain the causes, effects, and possible solutions related to biophobia.

While fear responses to nature can be helpful in dangerous situations, exposure to nature offers numerous health benefits. People who avoid nature due to biophobia may feel more anxious and miss chances to relax outdoors or participate in social activities, which can lower their quality of life. Research suggests that direct, positive experiences in natural settings, such as nature-observation activities, are one effective way to reduce biophobia, allowing people to build familiarity with nature.

★★Questions

★★No. 23 According to researchers, what is one thing that can make “biophobia” worse?

★★No. 24 According to the speaker, what is one thing that can reduce biophobia?

Finally, here are the directions for **Part 3**. In this part, you will hear five passages, (G) through (K). The passages represent real-life situations and may contain sound effects. Each passage will have one question, **No. 25** through **No. 29**. 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.

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

☆☆If price is your main concern, Market Street Parking is the most reasonable option at eight dollars for the entire evening. However, it is outdoors and does not have any staff on site. The Central Garage costs twelve dollars and is covered, but it lacks staff and security cameras. Riverfront Parking charges fifteen dollars. It's underground, and it's monitored and has controlled entry. Finally, the Darlington Hotel offers indoor parking with security for twenty dollars, though it is mainly used by hotel guests and fills up quickly after five.

★★Now mark your answer on your answer sheet.

☆(H) You have 10 seconds to read the situation and Question **No. 26**.

★For local use, our Silver plan is popular. That costs just fifty dollars per year, and it provides basic coverage, including towing to any destination within fifty kilometers. However, if you often use your car for day trips, I'd recommend our Gold plan. That's seventy dollars per year, but the towing limit increases to 150 kilometers. For longer distances, our Platinum plan covers towing up to 250 kilometers for ninety dollars per year. We also have Platinum Plus, which is the same as Platinum but includes reimbursement for hotels if your car breaks down far from home. That's 120 dollars.

☆Now mark your answer on your answer sheet.

★★(I) You have 10 seconds to read the situation and Question **No. 27**.

☆One nice hotel in the area is the Grandshore. The rooms are modern and spacious. I did find the front desk staff rather cold, though. Next is Luma Court. The level of attention I received there was exceptional. The building is showing its age, though. If you're looking for luxury, the Bellweather has a rooftop bar and spa. One thing to keep in mind, however, is that it took them ages whenever I needed assistance. Finally, I stayed at Harcourt Inn. It's clean and quiet, but I frequently had to remind staff about things I had already requested.

★★Now mark your answer on your answer sheet.

★(J) You have 10 seconds to read the situation and Question **No. 28**.

☆☆I just heard from the catering company. Apparently, they're short-staffed on the night of our event. They can still prepare all the food, but they don't have anyone available to handle the cleanup. They said that if we moved the event to their banquet room, their staff could take care of everything. If you haven't finalized the reservation for the venue, please get in touch with the caterer as soon as possible to let them know we're using their facility. Otherwise, I'll need you to recruit volunteers to manage the tables and dishes at the current event space.

★Now mark your answer on your answer sheet.

☆☆(K) You have 10 seconds to read the situation and Question **No. 29**.

★This Saturday, we are delighted to welcome the renowned author Lee Field to the bookstore to talk about his most famous action hero. The talk will take place in the Fiction section on the third floor, starting at 1 p.m. As seating is limited, we recommend arriving early. For those who can't

attend in person, the event will be recorded and uploaded to our website. Lee will also be signing his books, and a maximum of fifty signed copies are available for advance reservation. Reserved copies may be collected from the first-floor counter starting next Monday.

☆☆Now mark your answer on your answer sheet.

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。