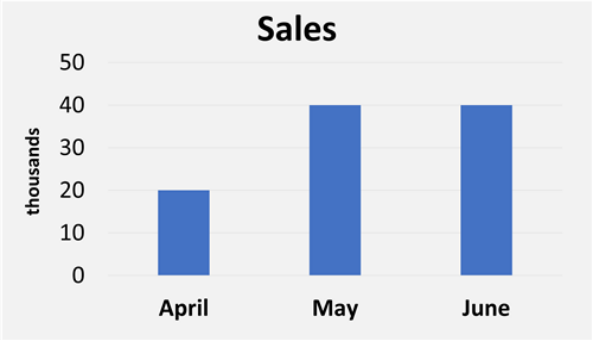
Linguaskill
BUSINESS

Listening Sample Test

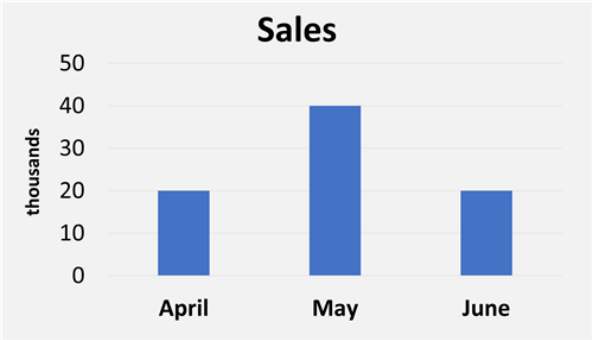
Answer Key

1. A man is talking about his company's sales. Which chart is he referring to?

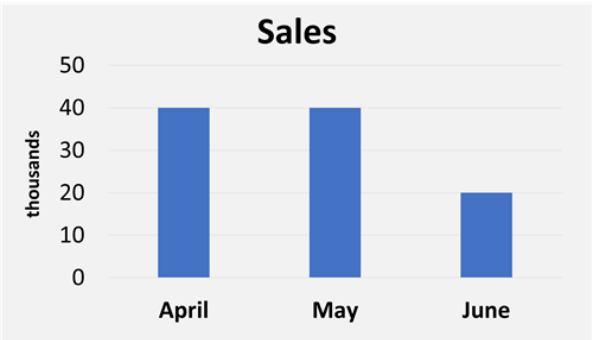
A



B



C



Listen to two HR managers discussing the role of technology in recruitment.

2. What do the two HR managers agree about technology?

A It is not suitable for recruitment in all job sectors.

B It will never completely replace interviews.

C It is unable to eliminate bias entirely.

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Listen to two managers discussing plans to move their factory to new premises.

3. What was the problem with the old premises?

A They were inconveniently located.

B The rent was too high.

C They were too small.

4. What is the priority when they are in their new premises?

A replacing IT

B training the staff

C contacting clients and suppliers

Listen to two co-workers discussing their company's recent introduction of a four-day workweek.

5. What is the woman doing when she talks about her experience of the four-day workweek?

A highlighting a less common way of looking at the subject

B explaining its importance for a well-functioning workplace

C correcting a misunderstanding of the topic

6. How does the man feel about the four-day workweek?

A frustrated at reduced opportunities for meetings

B surprised that he continues to feel under pressure

C dissatisfied that he is getting less work done

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Listen to part of a radio programme in which a business psychologist called Holly Marvin is talking about working under pressure.

Working under pressure

7. According to Holly, work performance is seldom enhanced by the pressure of ____.

8. Holly argues that to achieve success from employees, goal-setting should not be seen as a ____ in the workplace.

9. Holly mentions the US industrialist Henry Ford in order to point out how both productivity and ____ increased due to his ideas.

10. Holly says that a recent US survey found that performance targets were described as a ____ by a small proportion of workers surveyed.

11. Holly wonders whether performance pressure may negatively affect the amount of ____ staff are capable of.

7. looming deadlines / deadlines

8. priority

9. well-being / wellbeing / well being

10. daily struggle / a daily struggle

11. innovation / innovating

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Listen to a manager giving advice in a company training session about making meetings shorter.

12. What does the speaker say about arranging meetings?

A Remind everyone not to be late to the meetings.

B Avoid having too many meetings on the same day.

C Make people notice the time meetings begin.

13. What does the speaker say about how long meetings should be?

A All meetings should last no more than one hour.

B Meetings should include time to deal with unexpected problems.

C The planned meeting length should match how much work needs to be done.

14. According to the speaker, the aim of the meeting should be

A known by participants in advance of the meeting date.

B explained to the participants at the start of the meeting.

C discussed by participants in the meeting.

15. What does the speaker say about standing up during meetings?

A It can be a more efficient way of working.

B It helps people feel less stressed.

C It is only suitable for minor decisions.

16. What does the speaker say about how to end meetings?

A Summarise the decisions taken in the meeting.

B Discuss ideas for the agenda of the next meeting.

C Review how well the meeting has gone.

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CAMBRIDGE English

Listen to two friends, Peter and Lisa, who both work in company finance, talking about working in the sector, and the role of company finance directors, or FDs.

17. When Peter describes the experiences of his first job in finance, he

A states that valuable technical skills can still be learnt in difficult conditions.

B stresses the importance of due diligence before accepting a post.

C explains why working in the sector was so much harder in the past.

D highlights the risks of having to work without adequate support.

18. They agree that what makes an FD outstanding is the ability to

A communicate clearly with stakeholders and external parties.

B carry out in-depth analysis of complex financial information.

C identify a direction for the development of the company.

D build a profound understanding of their company's markets.

19. When Peter talks about the role of FDs and CEOs, he

A speculates to what extent FDs can question a CEO's decisions.

B suggests the relationship between them is crucial to business success.

C maintains there is little difference between the two roles.

D points out that FDs shouldn't automatically be seen as a CEO's successor.

20. What is said about FDs that have worked in companies with financial problems?

A They may well find it doesn't affect their chances of future employment.

B The source of the problems would have to be identified before they were hired.

C The experience of steering a company through difficulties should be seen as an asset.

D They may be more controlling than FDs who've managed to avoid problems.

21. What advice does Peter offer Lisa regarding career progression?

A Try to anticipate what skills FDs will need in future.

B Adopt a specialism that ensures you are sought after by companies.

C Take time to think about areas where you need to improve.

D Be prepared to take on training to prepare for new roles.

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Listen to five short extracts in which people are talking about the successful launch of a business idea.

What does each person say was key to the success of the business idea?

		Speaker 1	Speaker 2	Speaker 3	Speaker 4	Speaker 5
A	acting on negative feedback			✓		
B	doing thorough customer research					
C	studying competitors closely					
D	being willing to take risks					✓
E	recognising the need for a major product modification				✓	
F	making plans for the long term					
G	having a high level of motivation		✓			
H	taking action to prepare for difficulties	✓				

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Listen to three short extracts in which people are talking about their work in finance.

Why did each speaker choose their current job?

		Speaker 1	Speaker 2	Speaker 3
A	the company's reputation			
B	the contacts the speaker had within the company	✓		
C	the company's clientele			
D	the size of the company			✓
E	the opportunity to apply their studies		✓	

What is the speaker's aim for the near future?

		Speaker 1	Speaker 2	Speaker 3
A	to have more direct work with clients			
B	to do international work		✓	
C	to specialise in a particular type of work			✓
D	to be given more responsibility			
E	to experience a greater variety of work	✓		

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