

# **CAMBRIDGE ENGLISH SKILLS TEST: GENERAL**

**Listening**

**Sample Test**

**SUITABLE FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED CANDIDATES**

**READ THE INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE 2**

## **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

**Write your name, centre number, and candidate number on your answer sheet.**

**Listen to the instructions for each part of the paper carefully.**

**Answer all the questions in Parts 1 – 5.**

**Write your answers on the SEPARATE ANSWER SHEET together with the number of each question.**

**At the end of the test, hand in both this question paper and your answer sheet.**

## **INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

**There are five parts to the test.**

**There are 18 questions, and each question carries one mark.**

**The recording will be paused from time to time to give you time to read the questions, and to write and check your answers.**

**You have approximately 30 minutes plus your extra time allowance.**

**PLEASE DO NOT TURN OVER TO PAGE 4 UNTIL YOU ARE  
TOLD TO DO SO.**

# **LISTENING**

## **PART 1**

### **QUESTION 1**

**You will hear a short recording.**

**For question 1, choose the best answer (A, B or C).**

**Write the correct letter ON YOUR SEPARATE ANSWER SHEET together with the number of the question.**

**1 Which train is at the station now?**

**A the train to Birmingham**

**B the train to Oxford**

**C the train to London**

## **PART 2**

### **QUESTIONS 2 – 6**

**Listen to a talk by a woman called Sally Cruz, who spent a holiday on a boat on a river in the USA.**

**For questions 2 – 6, choose the best answer, A, B or C.**

**Write the correct letter ON YOUR SEPARATE ANSWER SHEET, together with the number of the question.**

**2 At the beginning of the trip, Sally says she was**

- A worried about her children's safety.**
- B unhappy because she was cold and wet.**
- C frightened of the river water.**

**3 What gave Sally special pleasure during the trip?**

- A seeing her children enjoy the natural world**
- B being able to swim in fresh water**
- C leaving her computer behind**

**4 What does Sally say about camping?**

- A She managed to sleep in spite of the uncomfortable tents.**
- B She liked to stay up late talking with people round the campfire.**
- C She was always the first person up in the mornings.**

**5 Sally was particularly satisfied with the meals in camp because**

**A her children enjoyed the healthy diet.**

**B she was given a rest from cooking.**

**C the cooks always served local food.**

**6 Sally admired the guides because**

**A they were always very cheerful.**

**B they were very young for such a responsible job.**

**C there were very few of them to look after twenty people.**

## **PART 3**

### **QUESTIONS 7 and 8**

**Listen to part of a talk where a careers advisor talks about job interviews.**

**For questions 7 and 8, choose the best answer, A, B or C.**

**Write the correct letter ON YOUR SEPARATE ANSWER SHEET, together with the number of the question.**

- 7 What risk does the careers advisor warn job applicants about?**
- A giving irrelevant answers to the interviewer's questions**
  - B revealing negative information about themselves**
  - C exaggerating how skilful they are**
- 8 What advice does the careers advisor have for interviewees?**
- A Mention an event outside the world of work that made you feel nervous.**
  - B Request clarification if you don't understand the question you are asked.**
  - C Give a concrete example of when you handled a difficult circumstance.**

## **PART 4**

### **QUESTIONS 9 – 13**

**You will hear five short extracts in which people are talking about the trees in their city. For questions 9 – 13, choose from the list of options (A – H) what each person says they value most about the trees in their city. Use the letters only once. There are three extra letters which you do not need to use.**

**Write the correct letter ON YOUR SEPARATE ANSWER SHEET, together with the number of the question.**

### **OPTIONS**

- A They lessen the effects of summer heat.**
- B They can inspire a real community spirit.**
- C They can have a positive effect on mood.**
- D They add variety to the urban landscape.**
- E They compensate for the ugliness of the city.**
- F They keep people in touch with the natural world.**
- G They make a major contribution to reducing pollution.**
- H They encourage people to think about the city's history.**

**9 Speaker 1**

**10 Speaker 2**

**11 Speaker 3**

**12 Speaker 4**

**13 Speaker 5**

## **PART 5**

### **QUESTIONS 14 – 18**

Listen to part of a podcast in which a woman called Mel, who is a keen cyclist, is talking about a race called The Iron Horse Bicycle Classic.

For questions 14 – 18, complete the sentences by writing no more than three words in each gap.

Write the missing words **ON YOUR SEPARATE ANSWER SHEET**, together with the number of the question.

#### **THE IRON HORSE BICYCLE CLASSIC RACE**

Mel jokingly suggests that the train might have an (14) \_\_\_\_\_ because of its performance in the race.

Mel says that (15) \_\_\_\_\_ is the key factor cyclists need to complete the Iron Horse Bicycle Classic Race.

Mel believes that its (16) \_\_\_\_\_ is the main reason that cyclists are drawn to the race.

Mel is most looking forward to comparing her performance on the (17) \_\_\_\_\_ when she takes part next year.

Mel uses the term (18) ‘\_\_\_\_\_’ to explain the effects of the weather in 2008.

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