

LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Task 1. (8 points)

You will hear four people talking about homeschooling. For questions 1.1.–1.8. choose the right speaker and write the appropriate letter (A, B, C or D) in the table. Some speakers may be chosen more than once. You will hear the recording twice. For each correct answer you will be given 1 point.

	Which speaker		
Speaker A	1.1.	advocates revising homeschooling laws?	
Speaker B	1.2.	provides both pros and cons of homeschooling?	
Speaker C	1.3.	appears very sceptical about homeschooling?	
Speaker D	1.4.	explains the rationale behind his/her decision to homeschool?	
	1.5.	mentions independent thinking as an advantage of homeschooling?	
	1.6.	anticipates limited career opportunities for homeschooled students?	
	1.7.	makes reference to the early beginnings of homeschooling?	
	1.8.	gives priority to protecting children from outside threats?	

TRANSFER YOUR ANSWERS TO THE ANSWER SHEET!

Task 2. (5 points)

You will hear an interview with a writer. For questions 2.1.–2.5., choose the correct answer and circle the appropriate letter (A, B, C or D). You will hear the recording twice. For each correct answer you will be given 1 point.

2.1. Leslie Savan's *Slam Dunks and No-Brainers* is a book which

- A. is a collection of articles she wrote for *The Village Voice*.
- B. was started eight years before publication.
- C. she wrote while working as a journalist.
- D. won her a prestigious literary prize.

2.2. The book was inspired by words and phrases that

- A. make a special impact on the listener when used appropriately.
- B. were first used as punchlines in popular Internet jokes.
- C. proved particularly popular with comedy series viewers.
- D. are interpreted differently by different listeners.

2.3. What does Leslie say about catchphrases?

- A. Speakers use them more consciously nowadays.
- B. Ways of learning them have changed.
- C. Users are sometimes unaware of their true origin.
- D. Fewer phrases originate among African-American musicians nowadays.

2.4. Leslie Savan refers to *American Idol* in order to

- A. draw an analogy.
- B. refute an argument.
- C. deflect criticism.
- D. express disappointment.

2.5. People use pop language most often to

- A. adjust what they say to their interlocutor's expectations.
- B. dismiss ironic comments about themselves.
- C. provoke a reaction from a huge number of people.
- D. manage a situation in which they feel vulnerable.

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Task 3. (7 points)

You will hear part of a radio programme. Answer questions 3.1.–3.7. in the spaces provided. You will hear the recording twice.

For each correct answer you will be given 1 point.

3.1. Why was the Thames at Henley 'a picture of grey' on the day of the race?

3.2. What was the most important factor determining the cheerful mood of the event?

3.3. / 3.4. How was the primary school event different from the Henley Veterans' Regatta?
(give **two** examples)

3.5. Why was the speaker pleased with the Prime Minister's announcement?

3.6. / 3.7. List **two** things that must be done to make the Prime Minister's proposal work.

ROUGH DRAFT

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