



There are 7 marks available for Part One.

Listen to a conversation, then select the correct answer for questions 1-7 by choosing from A), B) or C).

You will hear the conversation **twice**.

For each sentence or question, place a **black mark** over the correct answer on your answer sheet.

1 What does Sara say about her acting career?

- A She was involved in acting in her childhood.
- B People discouraged her from doing it.
- C She was well-known for her ability to imitate accents.

2 What does Sara say about the acting industry in general?

- A It's an unreliable source of income.
- B There are too many actors these days.
- C There are lots of acting jobs around.

3 Sara says that being a successful actor can be attributed to

- A having a professional agent.
- B a combination of luck and talent.
- C how well a person is able to act.

4 What is Sara's opinion of actors becoming an instant success?

- A It's fairly rare.
- B It's due to hard work.
- C It's incomprehensible.

5 What does Sarah suggest to someone who wants to become an actor?

- A Building their confidence until it's enjoyable.
- B Taking acting classes.
- C Facing reality before it's too late.

6 According to Sara, what is the reason why people give up training?

- A Not enjoying amateur groups.
- B Feeling anxious.
- C Not getting enough auditions.

7 This broadcast highlights the

- A reasons people want to get into acting.
- B easiest routes into an acting career.
- C issues involved in pursuing an acting career.



There are 7 marks available for Part Two.

Listen to an interview, then select the correct answer for questions 8 - 14 by choosing from A), B) or C).

You will hear the interview **twice**.

For each sentence or question, place a **black mark** over the correct answer on your answer sheet.

8 How does the interviewer react to Theo's question?

- A She finds it's an interesting question.
- B She struggles to find an answer to it.
- C She is unable to remember the question.

9 What does the interviewer say about infantile amnesia?

- A She disagrees with what Theo has said.
- B She thinks it is an engaging subject to discuss.
- C She questions whether it really exists.

10 Theo says that studies into infantile amnesia

- A have not clarified the reason why it happens.
- B show babies do not have memories in the initial months of their life.
- C have proved that many theories are correct.

11 The manner in which the interviewer offers his theory is

- A humble.
- B apologetic.
- C defensive.

12 What is NOT mentioned about infantile amnesia?

- A Infants lack linguistic abilities to form memories.
- B Memory recollection does not go that far back.
- C The hippocampus is not fully developed yet.

13 Theo mentions one possible reason for infantile amnesia may be

- A an inability to use language at that stage of life.
- B memory only develops in their second year.
- C underdevelopment of the front region of the brain.



14 What does Theo say about his own research study?

- A He has found a group of researchers.
- B He intends to publish his results.
- C He is looking for participants.



There are 10 marks available for Part Three.

Listen to a broadcast, then select the correct answer to questions 15 - 24 by choosing from A), B) or C).

You will hear the broadcast twice.

For each sentence or question, place a **black mark** over the correct answer on your answer sheet.

15 Who is Ben Bacon?

- A A linguist.
- B A historian.
- C A researcher.

16 How are the images painted in the cave described?

- A Fascinating.
- B Memorable.
- C Enlightening.

17 What does the speaker say about the animal paintings?

- A They were painted around fifty thousand years ago.
- B People had offered theories as to their meaning.
- C They have inexplicable markings on them.

18 How did Ben Bacon feel about what he could see in the cave paintings?

- A Stunned.
- B Perplexed.
- C Disturbed.

19 What theory was in existence about the signs in the cave painting?

- A They recorded how many animals were seen.
- B They represented the type of animals observed.
- C They logged the number of animals born.

20 Ben Bacon believes the signs

- A could be concerned with animal migration.
- B could be related to when animals were captured.
- C might be associated with animal feeding trends.



21 The presenter says that it is possible our ancestors

- A often moved around for their own survival.
- B were competent in rearing animals.
- C wanted to record when animals would be in herds.

22 The patterns in the cave paintings

- A are not considered to be writing.
- B are debatably thought to be writing.
- C have been confirmed as the earliest writing system.

23 The cave paintings are considered significant because they

- A show that our ancestors hunted by moonlight.
- B reveal how our ancestors disregarded the animal life cycle.
- C dispute current theories on how advanced our ancestors were.

24 How does the presenter report Ben Bacon's research?

- A Objectively.
- B Negatively.
- C Approvingly.



VTCT Skills

Reading Part One - 8 marks

Read the text below and then select the correct answer to questions 25 - 32 by choosing from A), B) or C).

Fill in the space on your answer sheet with a **black pen only**.

There is only **one correct answer** for each number.

For each sentence or question, place a **black mark** over the correct answer on your answer sheet.



Have you ever wondered why eating junk food is so enjoyable? Well, it has literally been engineered to make us overeat it and want more of it more frequently.

Food manufacturers spend a fortune creating products that reach what is referred to as the bliss point; the exact balance of salt, sugar, fat, and flavours that leaves your brain craving more. Manufacturers take into account a variety of factors during food production. First there's the salivary response (the formula to make you salivate). Then there's crunch point (the formula to get the ideal crunch). Next, dynamic contrast (the combination of different taste sensations in food) and finally the vanishing caloric density. This involves creating foods that literally melt in the mouth but also rapidly vanish. This signals to your brain that you're not consuming as much as you actually are, so these foods are literally telling your brain that you're not full.

As we eat junk food, the brain neurons produce the hormone dopamine, which creates a sensation of pleasure. Simultaneously, junk food makes the body's nervous system curb the activity of the receptors. Receptors are a type of protective physiological reaction to an abnormally high level of dopamine presence. This means you actually need more junk food (to produce more dopamine) to stimulate pleasure. These foods also influence other chemical responses in the body. Another hormone, leptin, has the role of signalling to the body when it is full, while ghrelin and insulin also influence how much you eat. Unfortunately, junk food overrides all of these natural systems making it very tough for the body to recognise when you are really full or hungry.

Marketing of junk food also has an impact. Society is bombarded with videos and images of delicious foods reminding us to eat regardless of our need to eat. Junk food companies influence our food choices by creating rituals out of eating their foods. For example, conditioning us to think we need to eat popcorn at the cinema. Associations are created between certain foods and activities. Responses to certain foods become ingrained to the extent that when you do see that food your brain triggers the memories and emotional response that came along with it, encouraging you to eat it again.

In my opinion, junk foods are products that resemble food and may contain food but are not food themselves. Real food comes from plants or animals and does not have a barcode. Nor does it have ingredients, because real food is ingredients. The reality is when you eat junk food you are not only up against the food itself, you are up against food science experts, companies, research and brands whose sole purpose is to create food that people will love, in order to make a profit. This is simply the reality of business and the current state of affairs in the food industry. However, every time that you buy these foods you are funding further research, development, and marketing on the exact same foods that are already so highly addictive.

25 What is the bliss point?

- A Attaining the perfect combination of ingredients.
- B The expense involved in the development of certain foods.
- C Designing a product that will satisfy hunger.

26 Which factor focuses on the flavour experienced in the food?

- A The salivary response.
- B Dynamic contrast.
- C Crunch point.

27 According to the text, what regulates hormone activity in the body?

- A Dopamine.
- B Receptors.
- C Leptin.

28 What response does junk food produce?

- A It disrupts the body's normal hormonal processes.
- B It can damage the body's nervous system.
- C It produces sensations of enjoyment and being full.

29 What is the purpose of the fourth paragraph?

- A To analyse the psychological response to junk food.
- B To highlight the physical consequences of junk food advertising.
- C To condemn companies manufacturing junk food.

30 The writer's position regarding junk food is that it

- A should have a higher content of natural products.
- B is unhealthy because it contains too many ingredients.
- C bears very little relation to genuine food.

31 What is the writer's attitude towards the food industry business?

- A Sarcastic.
- B Resigned.
- C Stereotypical.

32 What does the writer imply in the final paragraph?

- A People are starting to control their eating habits.
- B People don't know the ingredients of junk food.
- C People should think carefully before purchasing junk food.



Reading Part Two – 8 marks

Read the text below and then select the correct answer to questions 33 - 40 by choosing from A), B) or C).

Fill in the space on your answer sheet with a **black pen only**.

There is only **one correct answer** for each number.

For each sentence or question, place a **black mark** over the correct answer on your answer sheet.



When people hear the word intelligence, they usually think of IQ testing. Intelligence is often defined as our intellectual potential, something genetic that can be measured and that is difficult to alter. The concept of multiple intelligences is a theory proposed by Harvard psychologist Howard Gardner. This theory suggests that traditional psychometric views of intelligence are limited. He proposed that all people have different kinds of intelligences and classified them into eight areas.

Firstly, linguistic intelligence deals with sensitivity to the spoken and written language, ability to learn languages, and capacity to use language to accomplish certain tasks. Logical-mathematical intelligence refers to the capability to analyse problems logically, carry out mathematical operations, and investigate issues scientifically. Spatial intelligence is the potential to recognise and manipulate patterns of position, those used by navigators and pilots for example, as well as the patterns of more confined spaces, such as those of importance to sculptors, surgeons, artists or architects. Bodily-kinesthetic intelligence is the potential of using the whole body or parts of it (such as the hand) to solve problems or to make things. Musical intelligence refers to the skill in the performance, composition, and appreciation of musical patterns. Interpersonal intelligence is the capacity to understand the intentions, motivations, and desires of other people and consequently to work effectively with others. Intrapersonal intelligence is the capacity to understand oneself, to have an effective working model of oneself-including one's own desires, fears and capacities and to use such information effectively in regulating one's own life. Finally naturalistic intelligence involves expertise in the recognition and classification of the numerous species, flora and fauna of the environment.

Gardner's multiple intelligence theory has come under fire from academics and other psychologists. These critics argue that Gardner's definition of intelligence is too broad and that his eight different "intelligences" merely represent abilities, talents and personality traits.

Despite this, the theory of multiple intelligences enjoys considerable popularity with educators who are not typically tied to the same standard of evidence and are less concerned with abstract inconsistencies. Many teachers utilise multiple intelligences in their teaching philosophies and integrate Gardner's theory into the classroom.

A common misconception about the theory of multiple intelligences is that it is synonymous with learning styles but Gardner states that learning styles refer to the way an individual is most comfortable approaching a range of tasks and materials. The theory states that everyone has all eight intelligences at varying degrees of proficiency and an individual's learning style is unrelated to the areas in which they are the most intelligent. For example, someone with linguistic intelligence may not necessarily learn best through writing and reading. Classifying students by their learning styles or intelligences alone may limit their potential for learning and educators need to take heed of this.

33 Howard Gardner states that

- A intelligence is innate, measurable, intellectual ability.
- B the conventional definition of intelligence is too narrow.
- C intelligence is difficult to categorise and define.

34 Which intelligence is associated with the ability to understand and use area?

- A Logical-mathematical.
- B Spatial.
- C Bodily-kinesthetic.

35 Which intelligence relates to an understanding of verbal communication?

- A Interpersonal.
- B Intrapersonal.
- C Linguistic.

36 Gardner's theory has been criticised on the grounds that it

- A is very generalised.
- B mainly relates to psychology.
- C only supports his own research.

37 Why is Gardner's work welcomed in education?

- A It provides evidence of students' progression.
- B It is easy to apply the theories in classroom teaching.
- C Teachers are unconcerned about research evidence.

38 What does the writer say about learning style?

- A It is believed to correlate to the area of intelligence.
- B People misunderstand its relationship to achievement.
- C It may not be linked to a person's area of intelligence.

39 What is the main function of this text?

- A To evaluate.
- B To persuade.
- C To praise.

40 The language in this text is

- A academic.
- B colloquial.
- C official.

Part Three – 8 marks

Read the text below and then select the correct answer to questions 41 - 48 by choosing from A), B) or C).

Fill in the space on your answer sheet with a **black pen only**.

There is only **one correct answer** for each number.

For each sentence or question, place a **black mark** over the correct answer on your answer sheet.

January 14th 2023 Janet Summers created a new post: The Stanfield News has just received a statement from the local council that they are intending to reintroduce fees to park in the two main town centre car parks which are currently free. The fee is unconfirmed as yet but is described as 'nominal' and will come into force from July. No further details were provided and we are wondering what local residents make of this unexpected announcement. Please post comments on this matter.

in reply to Janet Summers Banks95

When the cinema, leisure centre and shopping mall were built two years ago, fees were removed to entice locals to come to the town centre to shop, eat out and for entertainment as opposed to going elsewhere. "Spend your money locally" was the message. Now they want to reinstate fees. That is absolutely scandalous.

in reply to Janet Summers AnaW

People are already struggling financially and now the council are making our lives even harder. Well, I for one won't miss coming into town when the fees come into effect. There are plenty of alternatives where parking doesn't incur a charge.

in reply to Janet Summers ASWest

This year the council have organised a food festival in the town centre, there was a summer party in Warren Park and a firework display and music at Christmas. I believe more events are forthcoming as well. All free. This is great for us, but has no doubt eaten into their budget. Now they're probably broke and looking for ways to recoup some cash. I think it's a bit short-sighted of them to give with one hand and take away with the other at a later stage, though. Personally, I'd prefer to dispense with the parties and keep the free parking.

in reply to Janet Summers Scottie1990

As a former councillor I can only say that the council does not do anything without seriously considering the impact it will have on residents and the community. I am positive there is a very good reason why parking fees must be reinstated and I'm sure if contacted representatives from the council would be only too happy to discuss it.

in reply to Scottie1990 AnaW

@ Scottie1990 Well obviously, you would say that, wouldn't you? I'd like to know what that 'very good reason' is and why nobody has asked us about it in the first place rather than just announcing it as a done job.

in reply to Janet Summers Blakie

Look, what we should actually be doing is taking this back to the council for some answers. There is still quite a bit of time before July and I believe there should've been a consultation process if the council really are as concerned about residents' opinions as Scottie1990 suggests. I'm organising an online petition against the fees so please click below to add your name and share with as many people as possible.

parkingfeepetition@onlinepetitions.com

41 The purpose of the social media post is to

- A question council action.
- B request feedback.
- C publicise council viewpoint.

42 What is the proposal of the local council?

- A The citizens to vote on the fees.
- B Nomination of fees on park entering.
- C Reinstatement of parking fees.

43 Who expresses outrage at the council's proposal?

- A Banks95.
- B AnaW.
- C ASWest.

44 Who no longer intends to visit the centre?

- A Banks95.
- B AnaW.
- C ASWest.

45 It is implied that Scottie1990 is

- A narrow-minded.
- B prejudiced.
- C narcissistic.

46 ASWest's attitude is best described as

- A disinterested.
- B ingratiating.
- C balanced.

47 Blakie

- A intends to ask the council some questions.
- B is keen to arrange a consultation with the council.
- C wants other local people to register their discontent

48 How can the citizens express their objection to the proposal?

- A By finding alternative spots.
- B Via sending a protest letter.
- C By signing an online petition.

WRITING – 30 MARKS

There are 15 marks available for Part One and 15 marks available for Part Two.

Part One – 15 marks

Choose **ONE** of the following tasks between A, B, C and D.

Write a **formal** response in the correct format for the type of text. Please pay attention to the required word count for your text.

For your chosen ONE option, you must write between **250 and 300 words**.

Write clearly and use a **black pen only**.

Option A - You have seen a documentary about traffic problems in city centres. You decide to write an article for your local newspaper about this topic.

Include in your article:

- What traffic problems exist in cities in your country
- Two main ways these issues could be resolved
- Which solution you think is better with reasons
- How travelling in cities might evolve in the future

Option B - You recently tried to book some flight tickets online. You experienced a lot of problems with this process. The airline has sent a link asking you to write a review. Write a review of their online booking service.

Include in your review:

- What difficulties you experienced whilst trying to book your flights
- How customer service handled your issues
- Whether the problems were satisfactorily resolved
- What recommendations you suggest for improvement

Option C - You have been discussing the ageing population in your English class. Your teacher has asked you write an essay on this topic.

Include in your article:

- Reasons people are living for longer these days
- What advantages this has for society
- What negative impacts this may have
- How communities can support an ageing population



Option D - You work in a shop. The owner is going to refurbish it and wants some suggestions from the staff. You decide to submit a proposal with your ideas.

Include in your proposal:

- The current deficiencies in the design and décor of the shop
- How the interior design could be improved
- How products could be better presented and displayed
- How the exterior/window could better attract customers into the shop



VTCT Skills

Part Two – 15 marks

Write an **informal** response in the correct format for the type of text. Please pay attention to the required word count for your text.

You must write between **250 and 300 words**.

Write clearly and use a **black pen only**.

A family member has recently moved to a new city where they don't know anybody. They have contacted you to say they are feeling bored and lonely. Write an email to your family member sympathising with their situation and suggesting what they could do to feel better.

Include in your email:

- Why it is often difficult to settle into a new place.
- How to overcome boredom.
- Where they could go to meet new people.
- How to behave in order to build new friendships.