

Answer Key

LISTENING COMPREHENSION TEST

Общее количество баллов – 40.

Каждый пункт теста оценивается в 2 балла.

За каждую орфографическую ошибку/ пропущенное слово снимается 0,5 балла.

Text 1

1 - C	2 - E	3 - G	4 - A	5 - D
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6 - B	7 - C	8 - G	9 - E	10 - D
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Text 1. Tapescript

Speaker 1: I design and make my own clothes, erm, so *I do look through a whole lot of fashion magazines to get basic ideas for my wardrobe* and then I just work from there. It's just a matter of playing about with designs and adapting them to what suits me. Sometimes I see photos of film stars and think, "Yeah, that looks really great" – and, you know, the actress spent a fortune on the outfit, and I can make something similar for a fraction of the price.

Speaker 2: *I don't buy any magazines myself, but when I'm at a friend's house I like looking through those glossy magazines.* I look at all those wonderful fashion pages and what else um, the horoscopes sometimes. ... Mind you, *I've no idea why I read them, because they're never right.* To think that someone can look up to the skies and foresee our future is a bit far-fetched. But I suppose it's all a bit of harmless fun, really.

Speaker 3: Basically I buy this magazine for the reviews – it covers all the new cinema releases and *I like to see what the critics have to say. I don't always agree with them, though. You've also got features about directors and actors and some quite good interviews there.* In other magazines you find interviews with actors about trivial issues like what they eat for breakfast. That sort of thing just doesn't interest me at all; it's just nonsense.

Speaker 4: I never buy magazines, but if I'm in the doctor's waiting room, for example, and I see one, I'll flick through it. *It's just to pass the time, mind you. I wouldn't spend any free time I might have reading them – they're hardly very informative or educational. I mean, do people have nothing better to do?* It just fills people's heads with rubbish. I prefer to spend my time reading a good book.

Speaker 5: I buy a weekly magazine which I love. *It's got news articles and a problem page and interviews with politicians and actors... you know, it's got a bit of everything.* I find it a great form of relaxation – I come home from work and curl up in an armchair and read the gossip about some film star or other. Actually, the first thing *I always read is my star sign.* My friends laugh at me, but *I find it's nearly always true.*

Text 2

11 – B	12 – B	13 – C	14 – A	15 – B	16 – C
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17	sales at regular intervals	19	be accessed and stolen
18	fewer members of staff	20	not(-)so(-)distant future

Text 2. Tapescript

For the next part of the course on life in Britain today we are going to look at shopping, at how we shop and the impact of the consumer society on our lives. Firstly, let's think about the shops themselves. When your parents were the same age as you, *the High Street offered less choice*, and prices were relatively higher. Shops were often family businesses and *many specialised in selling a limited range of goods* – for example, there were shops just selling stationery, electrical goods or even knitting wool. Prices remained stable, except for two short periods when the shops held their end-of-season sales. Now it's very different. *Go to almost any town in Britain and you'll see the same chains of shops*. Although there are more shops to choose from, there is a more limited range to buy, especially clothing, so we tend to have a less individual style. And the building of huge shopping centres, housing every type of store, means you can buy everything you want under one roof – these are usually situated on the outskirts of towns where land is cheaper, but can often only be reached by car. And there are *sales at regular intervals throughout the year*. Another change is the way we pay for our goods. Once you could only pay cash, and had to save up until you could afford the item. Now cash is rarely used – even cheques are being phased out in favour of *the credit card* – and goods can be bought by paying instalments, allowing us to have what we want whenever we want. Probably the greatest change in shopping habits is buying goods over the Internet. This is the fastest growing sector of retailing and every year more people are taking this up. This method of purchasing has many advantages, the main one being cost, as prices are lower than on the High Street. Internet companies can charge less for their goods because they don't have to buy and maintain expensive stores, and they need *fewer members of staff*. *And shoppers enjoy being able to select goods quickly and easily from the comfort of their homes at any time of day or night*. But there are drawbacks to this way of shopping. The main one being the fear that when shoppers use their credit cards to pay for the goods, their details can *be accessed and stolen*. Internet bosses claim that this is rare, but statistics show that this crime is on the increase. Another problem is that only those people who own a computer can benefit from these low prices, and some companies such as cut-price airlines will only operate through the Internet. Older people, not having grown up with this technology, may not know how to use a computer and so are not able to buy these goods and services. In fact, *the Internet would be a perfect way for older people to shop*. *They're often confined to their homes due to illness, and they could use an Internet supermarket to order food and have it delivered to their door, instead of having to carry the food home themselves, which can be exhausting*. A further disadvantage to shopping on the Internet is that you have to order something without trying it on or seeing it with your own eyes. *Even though the goods on most Internet shopping sites are clearly illustrated, it's only when you have an item delivered that you can tell whether you want to keep it or not*. Should you wish to send it back, you have the inconvenience of having to wrap it up and send it back by post. However many drawbacks we can think of, Internet shopping is here to stay, and the number of shops in the town centres will decrease and perhaps disappear altogether in the *not-so-distant future*. Next week I will continue this course with a lecture about the kind of holidays the British used to take compared to today. Thank you.