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Successful **INVALSI**

**Quaderno di allenamento
alla Prova Nazionale di**

inglese

per la

Scuola Secondaria di Secondo Grado

Listening Comprehension 3



TASK multiple choice questions

04 Listen to a person talking about Key West.

First you will have 1 minute to study the task below, then you will hear the recording twice. While listening, choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) for questions 1-8.

Only one answer is correct.

The first one (0) has been done for you.

After the second listening, you will have 1 minute to check your answers.

0 The speaker informs people about ...

- ☐ A places to visit on the island.
- ☐ B how to book a sightseeing tour.
- ☐ C when it's better to visit the island.
- ☒ D the modes of transportation available.

1 You should start your tour from the Old Town because it's ...

- ☐ A the centre of the island.
- ☐ B full of places to visit.
- ☐ C quite small.
- ☐ D a large pedestrian area.

2 You can go to Key West ...

- ☐ A by plane.
- ☐ B by taxi.
- ☐ C by ferry.
- ☐ D on foot.

3 Electric cars ...

- ☐ A can carry up to 4 people.
- ☐ B are very cheap to rent.
- ☐ C are perfect for long tours.
- ☐ D should be booked well in advance.

4 Scooters ...

- ☐ A are very expensive.
- ☐ B can be rented even for only one hour.
- ☐ C are the best mobility option of all.
- ☐ D are quite rare on the island.

5 A good idea for a sightseeing tour is ...

- ☐ A by private bus.
- ☐ B with an authorized local guide.
- ☐ C on a trolley.
- ☐ D in a car with a private driver.

6 Going around on foot ...

- ☐ A is seldom a good idea for solo travellers.
- ☐ B can be tiring and annoying.
- ☐ C is ideal if it's not hot or rainy.
- ☐ D lets you enjoy places from the inside.

7 The Historic Walking Tour and the Ghost Tour ...

- ☐ A take you around the Old Town.
- ☐ B are organised every day.
- ☐ C are the two most popular tours.
- ☐ D include audio-guides.

8 Take a boat to ...

- ☐ A go out to watch dolphins leaping from the water.
- ☐ B go sailing, windsurfing and snorkeling.
- ☐ C deepen your knowledge of marine wildlife.
- ☐ D the open sea in pursuit of the big catch.

Listening Comprehension 4

TASK multiple choice questions

 05 Listen to a person explaining how Johannesburg has been changing.

First you will have 1 minute to study the task below, then you will hear the recording twice. While listening, choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) for questions 1-8. Only one answer is correct.

The first one (0) has been done for you.

After the second listening, you will have 1 minute to check your answers.

0 Johannesburg ...

- ☐ A owes its name to a miner.
- ☐ B is situated in a deserted area.
- ☒ C is the most important business town in South Africa.
- ☐ D is the capital of South Africa.

1 Johannesburg ...

- ☐ A used to be a dangerous town in the '90s.
- ☐ B has a vast industrial area.
- ☐ C is surrounded by gold mines.
- ☐ D is, according to legend, a haunted town.

2 The city started to ...

- ☐ A develop in the late '90s.
- ☐ B change its policy at the turn of the century.
- ☐ C attract people again after a terrible earthquake.
- ☐ D be a safe place to live again in 2008.

3 Efforts have been made to ...

- ☐ A build a new train system.
- ☐ B turn the city centre into a cultural hub.
- ☐ C keep the demographic rise under control.
- ☐ D attract tourism and investments.

4 "Arts on Main" is ...

- ☐ A the most important shopping centre of the town.
- ☐ B an old factory which has now become a museum.
- ☐ C a cultural centre full of activities.
- ☐ D the newest art gallery in town.

5 Soweto is ...

- ☐ A an important tourist attraction.
- ☐ B a shanty town on the outskirts.
- ☐ C where the Apartheid Museum is.
- ☐ D full of modern buildings.

6 Lots of tourist attractions ...

- ☐ A are available both in town and outside it.
- ☐ B still need investments.
- ☐ C cannot be reached by train.
- ☐ D tell the story of apartheid.

7 Pretoria ...

- ☐ A can be visited on foot.
- ☐ B is full of green spaces.
- ☐ C has a famous lion park.
- ☐ D is not for tourists.

8 The Cradle of Humankind is ...

- ☐ A now under restoration.
- ☐ B in Johannesburg's city centre.
- ☐ C home to some of the world's most ancient fossils.
- ☐ D visited every year by millions of people.

Reading Comprehension 1



TASK short answer questions

Read the text about the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, then complete the sentences (1-5) using a maximum of 4 words.

The first one (0) has been done for you.

Edinburgh Fringe by the numbers

While many large cities in Europe empty out in August, that's when Edinburgh fills up – with mimes, musicians, actors, artists, and the hundreds of thousands of people who come to watch them perform as part of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

- 5 This year, from August 3 to 27, the giant arts celebration will feature more than 3,000 free or ticketed shows at 300 spots around the city. It is an open access performing arts festival, meaning there is no selection committee, and anyone may participate, with any type of performance.

An adventurous spirit is key for attendees. You never know what you're going to get – but then again, that's more than half the fun.

- 10 **1947:** Fringe started as eight shows in five venues back in 1947. Last year's event played host to a total of 3,398 performers, who put on a total of 54,232 performances over three weeks.

2,696,884: tickets issued last year, a record-breaking number. Fringe attendance has grown at an average of 7.3% over the last three years.

- 15 **520:** pages in this year's festival programme, which includes descriptions of each show, maps and venue information. Download it at edfringe.com.

1981: year the prestigious Edinburgh Comedy Award was first given. The inaugural prize – 1,500 pounds – was given to the then little-known quartet of Emma Thompson, Hugh Laurie, Stephen Fry and Tony Slattery.

- 20 **62:** countries with performers at last year's Fringe. Awareness of the festival is so widespread that last year its website was visited by people from every nation across the globe with one exception: North Korea.

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- | | | |
|---|---|--------------|
| 0 | The Edinburgh Festival Fringe takes place every year during the month of | August |
| 1 | This year's edition starts on | |
| 2 | The total number of shows performed in the first edition was | |
| 3 | The total number of places where shows are usually performed is | |
| 4 | The Fringe is for people with | |
| 5 | In its first edition, the Edinburgh Comedy Award was a prize which consisted of | |

Reading Comprehension 2



TASK short answer questions

Read the text about the passion for Scrabble that Professor Martin Hayward has, then answer the questions (1-7) using a maximum of 4 words.

The first one (0) has been done for you.

Word up

Professor of Mathematics Martin Hayward is truly a man of letters – especially the kind found on Scrabble boards. Professor Hayward has been playing the famous word game since high school, for fun and in recent years for competition, and next month will return to one of its signature events, the National Scrabble Championship, which will take place
5 in Cardiff from Sept. 4-8.

It will be the fifth time Hayward has been to the tournament, which is divided into four divisions: Elite, Expert, Intermediate and Novice. Professor Hayward will make his debut in the Intermediate category this go-round. Although relatively new to competitive Scrabble, he's played in some 40 tournaments over the past decade.

- 10 Every player plays 31 rounds at the tournament, which works out to eight games and roughly eight hours a day for the first four days. Three games make up the final part of competition. "I enjoy the thrill of the game. I know there's prize money for finishing first but I don't mind. What is really important to me is to give the best performance I can," he explains. "I also really like being around others who share my love for Scrabble.
15 It's a small, tightly-knit community so over time you get to know quite a few people."

- Introduced to the game by "a very smart colleague of mine", a linguist ("I only beat him once in ten games"), Hayward discovered through Scrabble an interest in language and a fascination with unusual words. And of course he also enjoys the mathematical and analytical aspects of the game, and the strategies which go with them: "You have to
20 work out how playing a particular word will affect your opponent's moves and your own following moves."

There's even a visual appeal to Scrabble, Hayward adds. "As a game progresses you become aware of the beauty of the spatial patterns that appear on the game board."

- As someone who takes the game seriously enough to play it on a weekly basis, Professor
25 Hayward studies the Scrabble Dictionary for a half-hour every day. But it's not a random scanning of pages: "It helps to have a study programme. Some look for long words that may not actually appear. I look for 'high probability' words, with an emphasis on learning or reviewing seven- or eight-letter words, as well as 'fives' – there are about 9,000 of them."

- 30 Professor Hayward will have more time for Scrabble after his retirement, which is due at the end of next academic year. He would like to continue his efforts to teach Scrabble to his grandchildren.
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0 How long has Professor Martin Hayward been playing Scrabble?

Since high school

1 How long has he been playing Scrabble at a professional level?

2 How long does the National Scrabble Championship last?

3 How many times has he already taken part in the National Scrabble Championship?

4 Which level does Professor Hayward currently belong to?

5 How did Professor Hayward discover Scrabble?

6 How often does he play Scrabble?

7 How many five-letter words are there in the Scrabble Dictionary?