

МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА ОБРАЗОВАНИЕТО И НАУКАТА

ДЪРЖАВЕН ЗРЕЛОСТЕН ИЗПИТ ПО

АНГЛИЙСКИ ЕЗИК – 27 май 2022 г.

ПРОФИЛИРАНА ПОДГОТОВКА

НИВО В2

ВАРИАНТ 1

ЧАСТ 1 (време за работа 60 минути)

Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

PART ONE: LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Task One

You will hear a text twice. Before you listen to it for the first time, you have 30 seconds to read the tasks to the text. While listening for the first time you are not allowed to mark your chosen answers. After you listen to it for the first time, you have 1 minute to mark your chosen answers on your answer sheet. While listening to the text for a second time, you can mark your chosen answers. After you listen to the text for the second time, you have 1 more minute to check or correct your answers.

1. Queen Elizabeth I had a passion for sugary delicacies.

A) True B) False

2. Before she was even a teenager, Queen Elizabeth I could already speak eleven languages.

A) True B) False

3. Early portraits of Queen Elizabeth I show that she had very pale features.

A) True B) False

4. According to conspiracy theorists, Queen Elizabeth I owed her effective leadership to her chief advisor.

A) True B) False

5. Some of the stories about Queen Elizabeth I and her connection to Shakespeare are clearly prejudiced.

A) True B) False

Task Two

You will hear a text twice. Before you listen to it for the first time, you have 30 seconds to read the tasks to the text. While listening for the first time you are not allowed to mark your chosen answers. After you listen to it for the first time, you have 1 minute to mark your chosen answers on your answer sheet. While listening to the text for a second time, you can mark your chosen answers. After you listen to the text for the second time, you have 1 more minute to check or correct your answers.

6. Ice skating first appeared in the northern parts of Europe in the years before Christ.

- A) True B) False

7. Early Finnish people practised ice skating to save energy while traveling.

- A) True B) False

8. Across all countries in Europe, ice skating was practised only by members of aristocracy.

- A) True B) False

9. In Britain, ice-skating was introduced by James II after his exile to the Netherlands.

- A) True B) False

10. Queen Victoria met her husband-to-be on the ice-skating rink near her palace.

- A) True B) False

Task Three

You will hear a text twice. Before you listen to it for the first time, you have 4 minutes to read the tasks to the text. While listening for the first time you are not allowed to mark your chosen answers. After you listen to it for the first time, you have 4 minutes to mark your chosen answers on your answer sheet. While listening to the text for a second time, you can mark your chosen answers. After you listen to the text for the second time, you have 1 more minute to check or correct your answers.

11. Carly Paoli was first inspired to pursue a career in music by

- A) her mother.
- B) classic Italian films.
- C) two opera songs.
- D) some kids' movies.

12. One of the greatest challenges for classical music artists is that

- A) they have to keep showing they are really good.
- B) they have to distance themselves from other musicians.
- C) they have to refrain from mixing different musical styles.
- D) they have to build their musical career quickly.

13. Carly Paoli is really proud of herself for

- A) singing at the celebration of the Pope's Jubilee.
- B) developing good improvisation skills.
- C) her live concerts on British TV.
- D) recording her latest album.

14. When preparing her seasonal repertoire Carly Paoli mainly considers

- A) the language in which she will sing.
- B) the stage on which she will perform.
- C) the people who will listen to her songs.
- D) the originality of the songs she performs.

15. Carly Paoli advises budding musicians

- A) to be willing to try out new things.
- B) to stick to familiar musical forms.
- C) to try not to be influenced by the audience.
- D) to find their own comfort zone.

Task Four

You will hear a text twice. Before you listen to it for the first time, you have 4 minutes to read the tasks to the text. While listening for the first time you are not allowed to mark your chosen answers. After you listen to it for the first time, you have 4 minutes to mark your chosen answers on your answer sheet. While listening to the text for a second time, you can mark your chosen answers. After you listen to the text for the second time, you have 1 more minute to check or correct your answers.

16. People today

- A) are quite uninterested in the modern culture of the young generation.
- B) focus much more on issues like work or academic studies than they used to.
- C) often find it hard to keep up with current tendencies in youth lifestyle.
- D) are perfectly aware of the developments in modern youth culture.

17. Today's teenagers and young adults

- A) are hardly any different from their parents or grandparents in their youth.
- B) are growing up under much greater pressure than former generations.
- C) do not face any of the issues and challenges typical of young age.
- D) go through the same experiences and influences like their ancestors.

18. In terms of food, which of the following is NOT mentioned as part of youth's concerns?

- A) Gourmet dishes.
- B) Effect on one's health.
- C) Type of packing.
- D) Nutrient-rich products.

19. As far as fashion is concerned,

- A) teenagers have never seen it as a way of self-expression.
- B) teenagers have always been interested in it.
- C) teenagers now prefer stylish to practical clothes.
- D) teenagers would rather wear designer clothes.

20. “Youth culture” is a term that

- A) covers the general specifics of teen age.
- B) exclusively refers to youth’s lifestyle.
- C) is applied to beliefs and practices common to all.
- D) is actually very hard to define.

Task Five

You will hear a text twice. Before you listen to it for the first time, you have 4 minutes to read the tasks to the text. While listening for the first time you are not allowed to mark your chosen answers. After you listen to it for the first time, you have 4 minutes to mark your chosen answers on your answer sheet. While listening to the text for a second time, you can mark your chosen answers. After you listen to the text for the second time, you have 1 more minute to check or correct your answers.

21. The opening lines of the song “White Christmas” as they are today

- A) are hardly familiar to anyone.
- B) are among the world’s best-known tunes.
- C) have only been performed on stage.
- D) have made Christmas what it is now.

22. Bing Crosby, the song’s best-known interpreter,

- A) was later sorry to have sung it.
- B) was obsessed with it from the very start.
- C) did not recognise its potential at first.
- D) changed its lyrics to adapt it to a movie.

23. Irving Berlin, the songwriter of “White Christmas”,

- A) composed all the greatest songs of the 1940s.
- B) created the song on Christmas Eve.
- C) thought very highly of the song.
- D) found a producer to record the song right away.

24. The premier of the film “Holiday Inn” brought Irving Berlin

- A) deep disappointment.
- B) brilliant press reviews.
- C) an opportunity to market the song.
- D) great popularity overnight.

25. The song gained in popularity owing to

- A) the soft voice of Bing Crosby, the famous performer of the song.
- B) the feeling of home it evoked in the US soldiers during WWII.
- C) film director Mark Sandrich, who named his film after the song's title.
- D) the massive promotional campaign launched by Irving Berlin.

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АНГЛИЙСКИ ЕЗИК – 27 май 2022 г.

ПРОФИЛИРАНА ПОДГОТОВКА

НИВО В2

ВАРИАНТ 1

ЧАСТ 2 (време за работа 180 минути)

Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

PART TWO: READING COMPREHENSION

Task One

Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question, marking your answers on your answer sheet.

The Creation of the Milky Way

The Milky Way is the galaxy in which our planet and solar system reside. In antiquity it was called “Galaxy” by the Ancient Greeks, and “Via Lactea” by educated Romans, both names having the root of the word “milk”.

Legend has it that it all started in Thebes, where Alcmene was pregnant by the god Zeus. Hera did her best to prevent the birth of her husband’s illegitimate son, and ordered Ilithyia, the goddess of childbirth, not to let Alcmene give birth. However, Ilithyia did allow Alcmene to give birth to a strong boy, named Heracles, meaning “for the glory of Hera”, in the hope of appeasing the great goddess. However, they still feared Hera and decided to expose Heracles in a field.

Exposure was a common practice of getting rid of unwanted children in Ancient Greece, for if the child died or lived was left at the will of the gods. Naturally Zeus hoped his son would survive but the goddess Athena also intervened on her half-brother’s behalf. She spotted Heracles in the field, descended from Mount Olympus and taking up the newborn baby, returned with him to Mount Olympus. Then the mischievous side of Athena came through, for she went to Hera to tell of the just rescued unknown baby; Athena, of course, knew who she had rescued.

The motherly instincts of Hera kicked in when she saw the baby, and taking the boy from Athena, she started to nurse him. Heracles happily suckled her milk, but then suddenly Hera felt a rush of pain, so she quickly removed the baby from her breast, and her motherly milk sprayed out into the heavens, creating the Milky Way.

- 26. The Greek name and the Latin name for our galaxy are both related to the word for “milk”.**
 A) True B) False
- 27. In the Greek myth about the Milky Way the newborn son of Zeus was eagerly awaited by all.**
 A) True B) False
- 28. Heracles was named in honour of the goddess of childbirth.**
 A) True B) False
- 29. According to the myth, Athena, Heracles’s half-sister, was quite naughty by nature.**
 A) True B) False
- 30. Eventually, Heracles was breastfed by Zeus’s wife.**
 A) True B) False

Task Two

Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question, marking your answers on your answer sheet.

Instead of turning south toward the London Eye, I headed in the opposite direction toward St. Paul’s Cathedral. I felt every bit a tourist in my sneakers. I’d walked only a block when a rugged-looking fellow waved me as I passed him on the sidewalk. With a wide grin on his face, the man said, “Fancy some mudlarking?”

Mudlarking? Is that some kind of mud-nesting bird? I shook my head. “No, thank you.”

However, he wouldn’t give up that easily. “Have you read any Victorian authors?” he asked. “Well, they wrote all about the mudlarkners ... the Thames runs straight through the city. Long ago, mudlarkners found old coins, rings, pottery, along the riverbed, and sold them, poor kids trying to buy bread. But today, we’re just searching because we love it. You keep what you find, that’s our rule.”

I raised my eyebrows, suddenly overcome with the thrill of holding in my hands an object last touched centuries ago.

I smiled at him. Despite his unkempt appearance, his hazel eyes radiated warmth. “Oh, I’m Alfred. But all call me ‘Bachelor Alf’. Funny, for I’ve been married for nearly forty years. The nickname’s on account of the fact that I’ve found thousands of bent-up rings.”

Seeing the confused look on my face, he went on. “Hundreds of years ago, men would bend metal rings to display their strength before asking a lady for her hand. But if the lady didn’t want to marry the man, you see, she threw the ring off the bridge. I’ve found hundreds of those rings. Seems plenty of gentlemen walked away from this river as bachelors. Strange tradition.”

31. The narrator started to the

- A) north.
- B) east.
- C) south.
- D) west.

32. Apparently the narrator was

- A) a keen bird watcher.
- B) a visitor to London.
- C) a mudlarking fan.
- D) an expert on birds.

33. Mudlarking came into existence as

- A) a poor kids' game.
- B) a popular Victorian pastime.
- C) a way to make ends meet.
- D) a study of the Thames.

34. 'Bachelor Alf' got his nickname because of

- A) his marital status.
- B) his social standing.
- C) his hobby finds.
- D) his kind nature.

35. The bent rings, found in the river, were symbols of

- A) failed marriages.
- B) passionate love.
- C) fine craftsmanship.
- D) rejected proposals.

36. Which of the following statements is NOT true according to the text?

- A) Once upon a time it was women who decided on matters of matrimony.
- B) The narrator turned a deaf ear to the stranger's story.
- C) Nowadays mudlarking is still practised as a hobby.
- D) Years ago, men had to prove their physical strength before making a marriage proposal.

Task Three

Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and answer each question with a sentence of your own. Write your answers on your answer sheet. Sentences copied word for word from the text will get 0 points.

The Arabs are more often associated with oil than with sugar but it was thanks to them that Europeans got their first taste of sugar. They introduced sugar canes to Sicily when they invaded the island in the 9th century. They had discovered it, together with the technology for making sugar, two centuries earlier when they conquered Persia.

By the time they landed in Sicily, the Arabs were already using sugar to make a whole range of sweetmeats. They mixed sugar with ground almonds to make marzipan. They boiled it with sesame seeds, nuts and other ingredients to make halva. They used it to make syrups flavoured with rose and

orange blossom water and they were the first to make sugar sculptures – there are records of a 10th century feast in Egypt describing sugar models of castles, trees and animals.

The Arabs occupied Sicily for three centuries, but nearly a millennium or thereabouts later their legacy is still in evidence in the cooking on the island.

Ice cream is another Arab legacy. Sorbet comes from the Arabic “sharbat”, meaning a sweetened drink. As with sugar, which came to Europe through Sicily, ice cream also made its way to the rest of the continent from the island. Caterina di Medici is reputed to have taken a Sicilian ice cream maker with her to France and later on, towards the end of the 17th century, a Sicilian opened the “Café Procope” in Paris, which became famous for its ice creams.

By the end of the 18th century, with sugar becoming more of a basic ingredient and less of a spice, pastry making came into its own. In Sicily, it was in the convents that it reached its peak. Initially the nuns distributed the pastries as gifts. But after Garibaldi’s expedition in 1860 when he united Sicily to Italy, the property of the Church was confiscated and the convents became impoverished, so the nuns began to sell their pastries in order to sustain their lives of prayer.

37. What are the Arabs most known for?

38. What event in Arab history introduced sugar into their culture?

39. What other ingredients apart from sugar did the Arabs use to make sweets?

40. In what field of life is the Arab influence most noticeable on the island of Sicily?

41. Who first made ice cream popular on the mainland of Europe?

42. Why did Sicilian convents become impoverished?

43. When did pastry making become fully recognized in Europe?

ЗАДАЧИ ЗА СЪЗДАВАНЕ НА ТЕКСТ

PART THREE: WRITING

You are required to do BOTH tasks.

Внимание: В случай на непристоен език, плагиатство или текст, идентичен с този на друг ученик, на съответния текст се присъждат 0 точки.

44. Read the task and write a formal letter (120 – 130 words), including the suggested prompts.

Write a formal letter to your local ethnographic museum suggesting that they include a temporary display of young people’s traditional craftwork. In your letter you should:

- say why the display would be interesting;
- suggest what could be exhibited in the display;
- explain what effect this display could have on young people.

Sign your letter with **Jack Marshal / Jill Marshal**.

Писмен текст с обем под 65 думи или текст изцяло несъответстващ на темата се оценява с 0 (нула) точки.

45. Read the task and write an essay (200 – 220 words), expressing your opinion on the set topic.

Some form of community service to help the less fortunate in society should be a compulsory part of every teenager's education. Give specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Писмен текст с обем под 110 думи или текст изцяло несъответстващ на темата се оценява с 0 (нула) точки.

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НИВО В2

ВАРИАНТ 1

Ключ с верните отговори

Въпрос №	Верен отговор	Брой точки
1.	A	1
2.	B	1
3.	A	1
4.	B	1
5.	A	1
6.	A	1
7.	A	1
8.	B	1
9.	A	1
10.	B	1
11.	D	1
12.	A	1
13.	D	1
14.	C	1
15.	A	1
16.	C	1
17.	B	1
18.	A	1

Въпрос №	Верен отговор	Брой точки
19.	B	1
20.	D	1
21.	B	1
22.	C	1
23.	C	1
24.	A	1
25.	B	1
26.	A	1
27.	B	1
28.	B	1
29.	A	1
30.	A	1
31.	A	1
32.	B	1
33.	C	1
34.	C	1
35.	D	1
36.	B	1

Задачите с кратък свободен отговор (от № 37 до № 43) се оценяват с 0 точки, 1 точка или 2 точки в зависимост от пълнотата на отговора. При проверка на задачите с кратък свободен отговор не се вземат предвид правописни и граматически грешки. В отговора се оценява съответствието между информацията в него с тази в текста.

Sample Answers

37. They (The Arabs) are most known for (producing) oil / oil production. (2 p.)

38. Sugar was introduced into the Arab culture after the conquest of Persia. (2 p.)

39. To make sweets they also used [ground] almonds (0.5 p.), sesame seeds (0.5 p.), nuts (0.5 p.), flavours like rose and orange blossom (0.5 p.) water
40. The Arab influence in/on Sicily is still noticeable in the field of cooking / the culinary field. (2 p.)
41. Ice cream was first made popular on the mainland by ... / The first to make ice cream popular on the mainland were...Caterina di Medici (1 p.) and her Sicilian ice cream maker (1 p.).
42. Sicilian convents were impoverished because Garibaldi (1 p.) confiscated the property of the Church (1 p.).
43. Pastry making had become fully recognized by the end of the 18th century (1 p.), when sugar become a basic ingredient and not a spice (1 p.).

Критерии за оценяване на създадения текст

44. Първи текст - официално писмо

- 0-5: Съдържателно съответствие с темата, смислова свързаност и логическа последователност (вкл. и спазване на регистъра);
- 0-3: Структура на текста (вкл. и спазване на зададения обем и формат);
- 0-5: Правилна и адекватна употреба на лексиката, лексикално богатство;
- 0-5: Граматическа правилност (морфологична и синтактична правилност);
- 0-2: Правопис.

45. Втора задача – аргументативно есе за изразяване на мнение по даден въпрос

- 0-8: Съдържателно съответствие с темата, смислова свързаност и логическа последователност (умение за представяне на факти, за формулиране на позиция);
- 0-2: Структура на текста (вкл. и спазване на зададения обем и формат);
- 0-9: Правилна и адекватна употреба на лексиката, лексикално богатство;
- 0-9: Граматическа правилност (морфологична и синтактична правилност);
- 0-2: Правопис.

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НИВО В2

ВАРИАНТ 1

ДА СЕ ИЗПОЛЗВА ЕДИНСТВЕНО ОТ УЧИТЕЛЯ-КОНСУЛТАНТ ПРИ НЕОБХОДИМОСТ!

Учителят-консултант изчита на глас и инструкцията, и съответния текст, според указанията в инструкцията!

Listening Comprehension

Task One

You will hear a text twice. Before you listen to it for the first time, you have 30 seconds to read the tasks to the text. While listening for the first time you are not allowed to mark your chosen answers. After you listen to it for the first time, you have 1 minute to mark your chosen answers on your answer sheet. While listening to the text for a second time, you can mark your chosen answers. After you listen to the text for the second time, you have 1 more minute to check or correct your answers.

The life and character of Queen Elizabeth I has given rise to hundreds and thousands of stories – some based on historical facts, others with a pinch of imagination and still others – mere mythology. Here are some.

Elizabeth had a notoriously sweet tooth and had a particular taste for candied violets. Eventually, the sugar caused many of her teeth to go black. Portraits of Elizabeth typically depict the queen with flaming red hair and an extremely white complexion. Earlier depictions suggest that her red hair was natural; her ultra-white face was created through lead-based make-up that may have led to health issues in her later life.

Supposedly, by the age of eleven Elizabeth spoke five languages fluently, and continued to learn other languages, including German. Before long she could speak or read English, Welsh, Greek, Latin, Spanish, French, and Italian.

Queen Elizabeth I stood out for her extraordinary leadership qualities, noted academic brilliance, and shrewd financial judgement, which led to many conspiracy claims that she must have been a man. An overwhelming amount of evidence declares this notion false and discriminatory.

Conspiracy theorists have proposed that Elizabeth, who herself had a gifted wit and was a writer, might have written some or all of Shakespeare's plays. Although many scholars have been reluctant to ascribe some of the greatest works of literature of all time to the son of a glover from Stratford-upon-Avon, this argument has proven to be quite biased.

Task Two

You will hear a text twice. Before you listen to it for the first time, you have 30 seconds to read the tasks to the text. While listening for the first time you are not allowed to mark your chosen answers. After you listen to it for the first time, you have 1 minute to mark your chosen answers on your answer sheet. While listening to the text for a second time, you can mark your chosen answers. After you listen to the text for the second time, you have 1 more minute to check or correct your answers.

Research suggests that the earliest ice skating happened in southern Finland more than 4,000 years ago. This was a practical method of transport, which made getting across frozen lakes less of a struggle and helped skaters conserve their strength during the winter journeys.

Adding metal blades to ice skates was invented by the Dutch in the 13th or 14th century. In the Netherlands, skating became popular as a recreation and was considered proper for all classes of people. In most countries on the Continent, however, participation in ice skating was limited to members of the upper classes.

Ice skating was brought to Britain by James II from the Netherlands, where he was briefly exiled in the 17th century. When he returned to England, he showed this 'new' sport to the British aristocracy, and it was soon enjoyed by people from all walks of life.

By the mid-19th century, ice skating was a popular pastime among the British upper and middle classes – Queen Victoria became acquainted with her future husband, Prince Albert, through a series of ice-skating trips.

Task Three

You will hear a text twice. Before you listen to it for the first time, you have 4 minutes to read the tasks to the text. While listening for the first time you are not allowed to mark your chosen answers. After you listen to it for the first time, you have 4 minutes to mark your chosen answers on your answer sheet. While listening to the text for a second time, you can mark your chosen answers. After you listen to the text for the second time, you have 1 more minute to check or correct your answers.

Interviewer / I/ Carly Paoli / C.P./

I: I'm Sarah Norman from *Scala* Radio UK and today I'm talking to Carly Paoli, a Brit nominated classical singer and BBC Music Ambassador, who has recently released her latest bestselling album 'Carly Paoli & Friends'. Carly, how did you decide to take up classical singing?

C.P.: I was 4 or 5 and like most kids I loved watching Disney films. The songs and the singing captivated me and, as many children do, I mimicked my favourite characters. When I was 7, my mum introduced me to musicals which were like the ‘real life’ Disney to me, full of real people singing and dancing – often doing both mid-conversation! I fell in love with all the actors who first made me realise that you could combine opera and an ‘operatic’ sound with songs like ‘Be My Love’ and ‘The Loveliest Night of the Year’, and I always knew I wanted to be like them.

I: It’s not easy to build a career in classical music, is it?

C.P.: On the classical music platform, it’s very important to prove your worth in order to be able to exist and be taken seriously as a performer. That’s something that doesn’t come about overnight and each performance acts as a stepping-stone in building your artistic reputation – and you never stop learning and trying to improve. I always want to give my audience an experience – be it in a full performance or simply listening – and to that end I want to try and introduce them to new and different music. I also keep seeking out and creating new musical alliances which actually led to this wonderful mix of musical styles, revealed on our latest album ‘Carly Paoli & Friends’.

I: Which of your musical performances are you most proud of?

C.P.: There should naturally be a growth and progression in an artist the older they get. Experience plays a part as you are able to achieve more technically and you start to learn what works for you and what doesn’t. From a technical point of view, I’d rather listen to my performance at the London Palladium Theatre and, of course, the release of ‘Carly Paoli & Friends’, of which I’m very proud. However, I can’t deny that there is a certain magic about singing live on Italian TV in the heart of the Roman Forum. It’s not every day that your song becomes adopted as the official song for the Pope’s Jubilee.

I: How do you make your repertoire choices from season to season?

C.P.: I choose my songs based on the audience I will perform in front of. For example, I frequently perform in Italy, so lots of my English repertoire becomes less relevant to an Italian audience. I do find though that British audiences are very happy to listen to songs in another language.

I: What can you tell to aspiring musicians?

C.P.: Not to be afraid to try things out of your comfort zone. The kind of performer you become may not be what you expected starting out. Everyone finds their own unique way to connect with their audience, but that only opens through experience. So, it’s important to be open to experiment with musical forms that may not be familiar to you and to be open to new challenges.

Task Four

You will hear a text twice. Before you listen to it for the first time, you have 4 minutes to read the tasks to the text. While listening for the first time you are not allowed to mark your chosen

answers. After you listen to it for the first time, you have 4 minutes to mark your chosen answers on your answer sheet. While listening to the text for a second time, you can mark your chosen answers. After you listen to the text for the second time, you have 1 more minute to check or correct your answers.

The modern world is changing rapidly and so does the culture of youth. Today, it seems easy as never before to fall behind the trends. Besides, being too busy with your own concerns like work or studies can leave you barely any time to keep an eye on the modern trends. So, do you really know the modern culture of youth well?

Although we all have been teenagers and young adults at a certain point in our life, youth living today is like no other generation in our history. Unlike many of us, they are raised in a highly technological and fast-paced world, which brings up lots of pressure on them. Like no other generation, today's teens are facing unique difficulties and experiences, and are influenced a lot by the Internet and social media.

When it comes to food, we can observe millennials to make some very conscious choices. The biggest trends in food among teens now are: simplicity, environmental friendliness, ecological packaging, superfoods, wellness.

Fashion has always been a powerful way of self-expression among teenagers and this fact never changes. However, what does change over time are trends. We've already seen plenty of youth fashion trends. Today's teens opt for comfort and affordability.

We can see how groups of teenagers and young adults may have shared values, practices, and tendencies, however, it is hard to say whether the concept of youth culture really exists. We can't argue with the fact that certain groups within the same society may have common beliefs but it is hard to call it a culture due to the diversity among teens.

Although there are certain trends, they rarely extend to all generations of teens. Be it fashion, music, lifestyle, art or anything else, the beliefs and tendencies within each generation are shaped differently under the influence of numerous factors, such as age, sex, social status, etc. Therefore, defining a single "youth culture" is difficult, if not impossible.

Task Five

You will hear a text twice. Before you listen to it for the first time, you have 4 minutes to read the tasks to the text. While listening for the first time you are not allowed to mark your chosen answers. After you listen to it for the first time, you have 4 minutes to mark your chosen answers on your answer sheet. While listening to the text for a second time, you can mark your chosen answers. After you listen to the text for the second time, you have 1 more minute to check or correct your answers.

The song that helped to make Christmas what it is today began with a humorous introductory verse that almost no one remembers today, as it was later replaced by one of the world's best-known lines: "I'm dreaming of a white Christmas ...". Its status as the greatest pop song of all time is even more remarkable because at first, "White Christmas" didn't impress

much anyone. Even Bing Crosby, the song's best-known interpreter, initially failed to see its promise.

The one man who did believe in its potential was songwriter Irving Berlin. The story goes that on a January morning in 1940, Berlin arrived at his New York City office and immediately told Helmy Kresa, his musical assistant: "I want you to take down a song I wrote over the weekend. Not only is it the best song I ever wrote, it's the best song anybody ever wrote."

It wasn't until April 1941, when Berlin and film director Mark Sandrich began a new movie, "Holiday Inn", that the songwriter found a vehicle for his Christmas creation. From the day he arrived at Paramount Studios to begin work on the picture, Berlin was obsessed with "White Christmas".

"Holiday Inn" premiered on August 4, 1942. But Berlin must have been disappointed when scarcely a single review mentioned the song "White Christmas". Soon after the premier, though, something extraordinary began to happen. Suddenly, without a lick of promotion, "White Christmas" was becoming a hit. After Crosby's 1942 recording travelled abroad to American soldiers on the front, the song began an amazing chart-topping run. The United States had entered World War II, and Christmas 1942 was the first that millions of Americans would spend away from home. The song offered them a feeling of cozy, domestic serenity.