



Intermediate (B1)

Focus: Listening (*érettségi előkészítő – középszint*)

Mock Exam 1

Task 1

- In this section you are going to hear some interesting facts about a famous radio play.
- Your task is to give short answers to the questions below.

- 1 The story took place in _____.
- 2 The reports claimed that a meteorite _____ in New Jersey.
- 3 According to reports, the Martians _____ a lot of people.
- 4 The reporter from the CBS building stopped describing the event because _____.
- 5 The novel *The War of the Worlds* was published in _____ - .
- 6 When listening to the radio play, a lot of people _____ .
- 7 The radio play is a good example of the _____ of communication media (like radio).

Note: You can access the media file by clicking this link:

<http://www.netangol.hu/B1/martians.mp3>

Task 2

• In this section you are going to hear someone talking about putting furniture together..

• Your task is to write the letter of the correct answer in the corresponding box.

Note: You can access the media file by clicking this link:

<http://www.netangol.hu/B1/ikea.mp3>

1 Joanne thought their flat was a mess because ...

- a) they didn't have enough shelves
- b) Kevin never puts things away
- c) they had too many books
- d) they were sitting on the sofa all day

2 IKEA is a big furniture store ...

- a) where you can furniture from lots of places around the world
- b) where you can only eat herring
- c) whose name is pronounced correctly by most British people
- d) where all the furniture have strange names

3 The problem with IKEA is that ...

- a) sometimes you can't find all the pieces you need
- b) everything is too flat
- c) it was made for Swedish people
- d) you have to pack what you buy yourself

4 When Kevin said he had finished putting the furniture together ...

- a) he saw that the door was upside down
- b) his back really hurt
- c) his wife told him the door was not right
- d) he thanked his wife for her help

5 By the time he finally put everything together, Kevin...

- a) had a lot of tea
- b) Joanne had to help him
- c) cut his thumb with a knife
- d) was wearing his jumper the wrong way

Task 3

- In this section you are going to hear a recording about the battle of Hastings, an important event in the history of Britain.
- Your task is to fill in the gaps in the sentences below with one single word.

Note: You can access the media file by clicking this link:

<http://www.netangol.hu/B1/hastings.mp3>

- 1 The Battle of Hastings took place in the _____ of England.
- 2 After the battle, only _____ people spoke English.
- 3 The English language became the most important language of Britain only _____ years after the battle.
- 4 One of the important changes in English was 's' used as the plural of nouns (e.g. book-books), which is because of the influence of the _____ .
- 5 Many foreign _____ have entered English since that time.
- 6 In the war games in Hastings, people ride _____ and re-live the battle.
- 7 Kevin took part in the game and he had to _____ in the battle as a Saxon soldier.
- 8 After the game, all the people taking part in the game go to a _____ .

KEY:

Task 1

1-1938;

2-landed;

3-killed;

4-he was killed/he died;

5-1898;

6- panicked

7- power

Task 2

1-B;

2-D;

3-A;

4-C;

5-D

Task 3

1. south

2. ordinary

3. 300

4. French

5. words

6. horses

7. die

8. pub

TAPESCRIPTS

The Martians have landed

Tuesday 31 October 2006

It happened sixty-eight years ago. On 30 October 1938, strange explosions were observed on the surface of the planet Mars. There were also reports of a meteorite landing in New Jersey in the United States. But then it became clear that it was not a meteorite, but a space ship carrying Martian invaders. A crowd of people gathered around the place where the spaceship had landed. They included a radio reporter who broadcast live descriptions of the event. The Martians however had other ideas; they turned their Heat Ray guns on the people, killing many of them.

More Martian space ships then landed. The US armed forces tried to stop the advance of the invaders, but in vain. The Martians had poison gas, which they sprayed into the air. Many people fled their homes and gathered in churches to pray. The Martians entered New York City. A radio reporter on the top of the CBS building in New York described the scene live to horrified radio listeners until he, too, was killed by the cloud of poison gas.

Did this really happen? Well, no, actually. What really happened was this. In 1898, the English author H G Wells published a science fiction novel called *The War of the Worlds*, about a Martian invasion of the earth. Later the American writer Howard Koch turned the novel into a radio play. The play took the form of "news flashes" and live reports, as if the events it described were really happening. The American radio station CBS broadcast the play on 30 October 1938. Many listeners panicked because they were convinced that the United States had indeed been invaded. It was a very interesting early example of the power of communication media such as radio (and later television). Today the play is regarded as one of the classics of radio broadcasting. Recordings of it are still re-broadcast from time to time, and you can find it also on the internet

How to build furniture

Kevin and Joanne sat on their sofa and looked around their flat. It was a mess. There were books and clothes and bits of hi-fi equipment all over the floor.

"The trouble is," said Joanne, "that you never put things away."

"No, the trouble is that we have nowhere to put things," said Kevin. And Kevin was right. They needed more cupboards or shelves to put things on.

So they went to IKEA. IKEA is a huge home-furnishing store. You can find IKEA stores in many big cities in Britain, and most European countries and nowadays in lots of places outside Europe. Nearly all English people say "eye-key-a". But I know that in Sweden people say "ee-kay-a", and since IKEA is a Swedish company, that is the way I pronounce their name. Actually, IKEA is very Swedish. All their ranges of furniture have Swedish names, and some of these sound funny (or even rude) in English. And the cafe at IKEA serves Swedish dishes like herring and Swedish meat-balls. IKEA furniture is "flat-pack" furniture. That means that you buy it in a pack containing all the parts you need, and when you get it home you assemble it yourself. And sometimes you find that not all the pieces are there and you have to go back to the store to get the missing bits.

But to return to our story. Kevin and Joanne walked around the huge store for about an hour, and found what they needed – a cupboard and some bookshelves. The fun started when they got it all home and started to assemble it. Kevin set to work. Joanne wisely went to sit in the kitchen. About two hours later, Kevin said, “It’s finished.” “Mmm,” said Joanne, looking at the cupboard and the bookshelf. “The trouble is that this bit is back to front. And you have put the doors on upside down.”

So Kevin had to dismantle the furniture and start again. He cut his finger, and hit his thumb with a hammer. Shortly before midnight, it was finished. Joanne brought him a cup of tea and admired his work. “It is perfect now,” said Kevin. “Nothing back to front. Nothing upside down.” “No,” said Joanne, “but Kevin – your jumper – look, it’s inside out!”

The Battle of Hastings

Last weekend was a famous anniversary. No, not my birthday. Not the anniversary of the last time England won the World Cup. It was the anniversary of the Battle of Hastings, which took place 940 years ago at a place called (appropriately) Battle, which is near Hastings on the south coast of England. In 1066, the army of Duke William of Normandy defeated the army of the Saxon King Harold of England. Following the battle, England was ruled by Norman kings, who imposed their own system of government on the land.

The English language almost disappeared. The ordinary people still spoke English of course, but the king, the royal court, the courts of law and the nobility all spoke Norman French. And when, two or three hundred years later, English re-emerged as the main language of the country, it had changed. For example, in the old English language, the plurals of nouns were all irregular – like “mouse – mice” in modern English. In the new English, people made the plural of nearly all nouns by adding the letter “s” to the end, because that is how plurals are made in French. And English people started using French words alongside the old English words. Ever since then, it has been natural for English people to import words from other languages whenever they want.

But to return to the battle. Every few years, there is a re-enactment of the Battle of Hastings, on the site of the original battle. People dress up in Saxon and Norman armour, and ride around on horses, and fight using replica swords, axes and arrows. Kevin took part in the re-enactment this year. He was a Saxon soldier and his job was to die heroically in the final Norman onslaught. After the battle, it is normal for both armies to retire to a nearby pub, to drink beer and tell stories about the heroic deeds of the day. The battle has of course got its own website and flickr photo-stream. You always knew the English were mad. You were right.