

Answer Key

LISTENING COMPREHENSION TEST

Общее количество баллов – 40.

Каждый пункт оценивается в 2 балла.

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

Text 1. Tapescript

In today's programme we want to talk about something many of our listeners are interested in. Many people play various sports on grass, but there's an argument for an alternative to natural grass, which is a type of plastic grass. Indeed, many grass fields have been converted to fields made with plastic grass, especially in schools all over the country. So, let's have a look at the advantages and disadvantages of artificial grass.

The first thing is that for schools, sports centres and clubs the cost of maintaining plastic pitches is lower than real grass. Artificial pitches don't need chemical fertilisers either.

In addition, artificial grass is more durable than natural grass, which means these pitches don't damage easily. Because of this, it's possible to play on these pitches all year, no matter what the weather's like. This results in fewer cancellations due to bad weather than you would have with natural grass pitches. And, having an even playing surface means fewer injuries. That's because, unlike normal grass, there won't be any holes in the ground, or large slippery areas.

Plastic pitches save water too. An average, normal playing field uses up to two hundred thousand litres of water during the growing season. So, using less water by having a plastic pitch is obviously good news for the environment!

However, replacing natural grass with artificial grass does have certain disadvantages.

Of course, the main thing to consider is the high initial costs of laying an artificial pitch. Another difficulty is that plastic pitches present a heat danger.

When the weather is extremely hot, these pitches absorb the heat, and the temperature on the turf can rise to over forty degrees Celsius. This is very uncomfortable for anyone playing on it.

Also, some plastic pitches are made from nylon. These are known to contain harmful chemicals, which could pollute the community's drinking water after heavy rain.

Finally, once an artificial pitch has been laid, it isn't possible to return to the old natural grass beneath. This is because living creatures can't live below the plastic pitch and that makes it impossible to grow grass there again for years. So, you'll need to think carefully before making a decision about laying a plastic pitch.

Now we'd like to know what you think. You can join our online discussion on our website after the end of this programme...

1. F

2. T

3. T

4. F

5. F

6. plastic grass

7. hundred thousand litres

8. fewer cancellations

9. slippery areas

10. certain disadvantages

Text 2. Tapescript

Speaker 1. I'm not that fond of camping, to be honest, so when my parents told me we were going on a camping holiday with my aunt and uncle and my cousins, I wasn't very pleased. I felt better when I was told that they'd booked cabins instead of

tents and I actually quite enjoyed the first day. That is, until I was washing the dishes after dinner. As I bent over the sink, I suddenly realised there were hundreds of ants marching along the bottom of the cupboard where my head was – yuck! After that, we gave up using the kitchen and resorted to eating in the café on the campsite instead.

Speaker 2. I used to do a lot of camping with the youth group I belonged to, and I remember one particular holiday when, for some reason or other, I wasn't getting on with the girls in my tent. Anyway, one night we'd all gone to bed and suddenly I felt something moving in my sleeping bag. I put my hand down inside and pulled out this enormous frog. Fortunately, that kind of thing doesn't scare me, so I just got up and put it outside of the tent. I thought that one of the girls had probably put it there, but when I asked them in the morning, they denied it.

Speaker 3. I always go camping with my family to the Gower Peninsula in Wales in the summer – it's a beautiful area, but the campsite we stay at is basic, to say the least. We take our own food and do all our own cooking, and at night we usually play cards together – it's all pretty chilled. The only problem is that you can't rely on the weather in Wales, and it often rains. In fact, one year, it was so windy that our tent blew away while we were inside it trying to sleep. So that was the end of that. All we could do was throw everything into the car and drive home.

Speaker 4. I've only been camping once, and I'm not planning on doing it again. We were in Madrid at the time, and it was so hot that we needed to get away. So we got hold of a tent and drove to a campsite in the mountains that a friend had recommended. We didn't bother taking sleeping bags, because we didn't think we would need them. How wrong we were! That night we froze! While the temperature during the day was around 30°, it went below 10° at night and we ended up sleeping in the car with the heating on. The next day, we booked ourselves into the nearest hotel for a few days.

11. B

12. A

13. E

- 14. C
- 15. C
- 16. D
- 17. D
- 18. B
- 19. B
- 20. D