# LISTENING COMPREHENSION

#### PART 1: CONVERSATIONS

#### SHORT CONVERSATIONS

#### Conversation 35

- M: Excuse me, Professor Anderson. I am confused about the homework. I didn't understand how to solve the last question.
- W: Ok, let me see. Ah, I see where the problem is. You added both these numbers in step number three, but you shouldn't do that until step four.
- M: Oh, I see! This makes a lot more sense now. Ok, I think I am finished. So, can I turn in the homework to you now?
- W: Actually, could you wait until tomorrow to give it to me? I am leaving campus right now, and I don't want to take work home with me.

Question 35. Which one of the statements is correct about the homework assignment?

- a) The man added the numbers in the wrong step.
- b) The woman wants the man to turn it in now.
- c) The man will not be able to solve the first question.
- d) The woman doesn't know how to answer the questions.

#### Conversation 36

W: Oh no! It's raining outside, isn't it? I put my clothes outside to dry this morning.

- M: Yeah, didn't you hear about the typhoon hitting Tokyo later tonight?
- W: I knew about that, but I didn't think it would start raining so soon.

M: Well, I think you should go home soon before it gets heavier.

Question 36. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The man left his clothes outside in the morning.
- b) The woman didn't know it would rain today.
- c) The man wants to stay home with the woman.
- d) The woman thought it would rain later in the day.

### Conversation 37

M: Guess what? My science project got 2nd place in the school science fair!

- W: That's amazing. And you thought you wouldn't do well.
- M: Well, I wasn't very confident before you helped me.

W: No, no. I just gave you some suggestions here and there. You did almost everything yourself.

Question 37. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The man was sure he would do well at the science fair.
- b) The man did almost all the work on the science fair project.
- c) The woman received second place at the science fair.
- d) The woman didn't think the man would do well at the science fair.

# Conversation 38

- M: Wendy, your husband is French. Is that right?
- W: Yes, he is from France. Why do you ask?
- M: My wife and I want to raise our daughter to be bilingual in Japanese and English. Do you have any tips?
- W: Well, for our son, we use the "one parent, one language" approach.
- M: Oh, so you only speak English to your son and your husband only speaks French to him? How interesting!

Question 38. Which one of the statements is correct about the man?

- a) He wants his daughter to learn how to speak French.
- b) He wants his daughter to be bilingual in Japanese and English.
- c) He is married to a French woman.
- d) He speaks both English and Japanese fluently.

# Conversation 39

W: Have you ever gone on a homestay in an English-speaking country like the UK or the US?

M: Not yet, but I am thinking about going to New Zealand for two weeks this summer.

W: Oh really? I did a homestay in Australia last year. The two countries have many things in common.

M: As soon as I decide my plans, I'll come ask you for advice.

Question 39. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The man has gone on a homestay once before.
- b) The woman recommended doing a longer homestay.
- c) The man did not like the woman's suggestions about homestays.
- d) The woman thinks that Australia and New Zealand have many similarities.

# Conversation 40

M: Hello, can I help you look for anything?

- W: I'm hoping to buy a pair of earrings that match this green dress. It's for a friend's wedding.
- M: We can definitely find something for you today. Do you like small or large earrings?
- W: Hmm, I usually wear small gold hoops or earrings with a simple design.
- M: What about these gold ones with small green flowers?

Question 40. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The woman is getting married in a green dress.
- b) The woman likes wearing simple jewelry.
- c) The man couldn't help the woman find anything.
- d) The woman is shopping for a dress and earrings.

## Conversation 41

- M: You look upset today. What's wrong?
- W: I didn't do so well on my social studies exam.
- M: Oh, sorry to hear that. But don't worry it happens. You'll do better next time, I'm sure!
- W: I know what you mean. Oh well, next time I will just study harder.

Question 41. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The man is upset about his social studies exam.
- b) The woman has to go to social studies class.
- c) The man is trying to cheer up the woman.
- d) The woman will help the man study harder.

### Conversation 42

- M: How often do you brush your cat?
- W: Once or twice a week. It helps to keep her healthy.
- M: Do you brush her teeth, too?
- W: Yes, but only about 30 seconds a day with a very soft toothbrush.

Question 42. What are the speakers talking about?

- a) Choosing a good toothbrush
- b) Taking care of pets
- c) Their morning routines
- d) Hairstyling and cosmetics

### Conversation 43

W: I hear Japanese schools have club activities. What club activities did you do in high school?M: Oh. I didn't go to high school in Japan. I was in Canada when I was a high school student.W: That's right. Sorry, I totally forgot about it. But did you join any club activities in your high school?M: Yeah, I joined a dance club. I made good friends and had a lot of fun with them.

Question 43. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The woman went to high school in Japan.
- b) The man forgot what club activities he joined in high school.
- c) The man was a dance club member in high school.
- d) The woman enjoyed club activities in her high school.

# Conversation 44

- W: When was the last time you saw Amy?
- M: It was about a week ago. Why?
- W: I was wondering if she was still around. When I last met her several weeks ago, she told me she would visit her grandmother in Canada soon.
- M: I guess she's in Canada now. When I saw her last time, she was on the way to the airport to catch a flight.

Question 44. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The woman met Amy about a week ago.
- b) The man will visit Amy in Canada.
- c) The woman hasn't seen Amy for several weeks.
- d) The man met Amy at the airport.

# Conversation 45

W: Is that your lunch? You had a sandwich yesterday, too.

M: Yeah, but it was ham and cheese yesterday. It's strawberry jam today.

- W: OK, but you need some vegetables with your meal. Otherwise, you'll ruin your health!
- M: I know. But I don't have time to eat all that. Maybe I'll drink some vegetable juice with my sandwich.

Question 45. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The man is a vegetarian and can't eat ham.
- b) The man ate a sandwich for lunch yesterday.
- c) The woman prepared a sandwich for the man.
- d) The woman wants to eat a strawberry jam sandwich today.

# Conversation 46

W: I didn't know you have a cat!

M: She was at an animal shelter. We adopted her from there last week.

W: She is so cute! What's her name?

M: We haven't decided. My sister said she would pick a name this week.

W: I wish I could have a cat. Pets aren't allowed in our apartment.

Question 46. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The man recently got a cat at an animal shelter.
- b) The man's sister is going to an animal shelter this week.
- c) The woman is glad to get a cat from the man.
- d) The woman's family had a cat in the past.

# Conversation 47

M: At what age did you get your own smartphone?

- W: I got one when I went to junior high school. I needed it because I had to take the train to school, and my parents thought I needed one. What about you?
- M: I also got mine when I started junior high school, but my younger brother got one at the same time as I did. I thought it was a bit too early for him.
- W: I suppose your parents had to control his smartphone use more carefully, then.

Question 47. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The woman's parents thought she needed a smartphone.
- b) The man was happy about his brother getting a smartphone.
- c) The man got his smartphone when he was in elementary school.
- d) The woman wanted to get a smartphone earlier than she actually did.

## Conversation 48

M: When you study abroad, would you like to do a homestay or stay at a dormitory?

W: Which would give me more chances to speak English?

M: That's not easy to answer. I think it depends.

W: Because I live with my parents now, I'd rather live with other students when I study abroad.

Question 48. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The woman is interested in speaking English more.
- b) The woman wants to do a homestay in a foreign country.
- c) The man has to rely on the woman's advice to decide.
- d) The man is going to move to a dormitory soon.

### Conversation 49

- W: I recorded the last episode of the drama I've been watching, but my brother accidentally deleted it! I can't believe it!
- M: Oh, no! But you can probably watch the rerun for free on the official show website. I often use it to watch something I missed.
- W: That sounds very convenient! I'll definitely do that because I really wanted to watch it.
- M: Missing the last episode is the last thing you want to do!

Question 49. Which one of the statements is correct about the woman?

- a) She enjoyed the last episode of the drama.
- b) She is familiar with the official show website.
- c) She wanted to watch the last episode with the man.
- d) Her brother deleted the recording of her TV drama by mistake.

## Conversation 50

- W: Dad, where did you learn how to cook? When you were in school, you didn't have a cooking class, did you?
- M: No, I didn't. I picked it up naturally when I lived alone as a university student.
- W: That's great. What did you cook when you were a student?
- M: I remember I cooked and ate a lot of chicken. As I didn't have much money at that time, I was always trying to save money and eat good food at the same time.

Question 50. Which one of the statements is correct about the man?

- a. He learned how to cook on his own.
- b. He taught his daughter how to cook.
- c. He spent a lot of money on good food.
- d. He saved money to attend a cooking class.

### LONG CONVERSATIONS

#### Long Conversation 1

W: Did you enjoy debate class today, Paul?

- M: I sure did. But I have lots of homework tonight.
- W: That sounds tough. Did the teacher give you any special advice?
- M: Well, first, she suggested that preparation is the key to success. She means that in order to do well, you have to do a lot of research to prepare for class.
- W: Oh, I see. Did she suggest anything else?
- M: She suggested that we remember to keep calm and look confident during the debate, which is actually difficult for me.
- W: That's nice! What good advice.
- M: I think so, too. But our next topic is really difficult!

Question 51. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The man is asking the woman to help him with his homework.
- b) The woman taught the man how to research information for debates.
- c) The man is very confident and calm in debate competitions.
- d) The woman thinks that the man got useful tips about debates.

Question 52. Which one of the statements is correct about the woman?

- a) Her teacher's homework topic was very difficult.
- b) She enjoyed class today with the man.
- c) She asked the man about his debate class.
- d) She told the man that she had a lot of homework.

## Long Conversation 2

- W: So, what are your travel plans for the summer?
- M: I'm going to Africa for about a month. I plan to visit my best friend there.
- W: That's amazing! Where in Africa does he live?
- M: Kenya. I will spend time with him in Kenya's capital city Nairobi. He was born there.
- W: What do you plan to do there?
- M: Well, Nairobi is a busy city with many restaurants, museums, and shopping malls. There is also a national park just south of the city well known for its wildlife. It will be hard to decide since there's plenty to do there. I can't wait to go!
- W: That sounds like such an exciting trip.
- M: It is. But I'm worried about the flight it seems so long. I hear it takes nearly 18 hours from Tokyo.

Question 53. Which one of the statements is correct about the man?

- a) He made travel plans with the woman to go to Africa.
- b) He is excited about the woman's trip to Kenya.
- c) His best friend was born in Nairobi.
- d) He is mostly interested in seeing the wildlife in Nairobi.

Question 54. According to the conversation, which one of the statements is correct about Kenya?

- a) There is a national park located north of Nairobi.
- b) It takes about 18 hours to travel there from Tokyo.
- c) The woman has been there with her best friend.
- d) The man will spend about a month there alone for the summer.

## Long Conversation 3

- M: I really like your drawing. I never realized how talented you are.
- W: I'm so glad you think so. Thank you.
- M: You are welcome. So, do you plan to study art in college?
- W: I'm thinking about it. I'm still weighing my options. I'm also interested in literature and education.
- M: I envy you. You have options to choose from.
- W: Why? You are good at sports, acting, and writing! You have many options as well!
- M: Thank you for saying that. I want to become a writer in the future, but my parents want me to become a doctor.
- W: You should talk to them honestly about what you want to do in the future.
- M: Yeah. When I return home next month, I'll talk about what I want to study in college before it is too late.

Question 55. What are the speakers mainly talking about?

- a) Finding a part-time job
- b) Enjoying college life
- c) Improving writing skills
- d) Choosing a college major

Question 56. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The man wants to become an educator.
- b) The woman has decided what to study in college.
- c) The man is going to see his parents next month.
- d) The woman wants the man to be honest with her.

### Long Conversation 4

- M: Do you want to go to the park and play soccer after lunch?
- W: That sounds like fun, but I am going to say "no." Sorry.
- M: I thought you liked soccer.
- W: I do, but this morning, I twisted my ankle.
- M: Oh, so you're worried about your injury, right?
- W: Exactly. I'm not going to play sports for a few days.
- M: Well, do you want to go to the library? We could read or study.
- W: No, not now. I just want to relax, so I think I'll watch TV.

Question 57. What are the speakers mainly talking about?

- a) Their favorite sports and books
- b) Health risks in playing soccer
- c) The best ways to relax
- d) Their plans for the afternoon

### Question 58. Which one of the statements is correct?

- a) The woman is injured.
- b) The man is apologizing.
- c) The library is closed.
- d) The speakers will play soccer.

## PART 2: MONOLOGUES

## Monologue 1

Death Valley, located in the southwestern part of the United States, is the hottest and driest location in North America. This 225-kilometer-long valley has summertime temperatures that can reach up to 52 degrees Celsius, and only receives about 20 millimeters of rain a year.

Despite these extreme conditions, Death Valley is home to a wide variety of wildlife. The plants and animals include cactuses, wildflowers, rabbits, and bobcats. The largest animal is the bighorn sheep, and it is the only animal that can escape the strong heat by climbing up mountains, where the temperatures are much cooler.

For many years, Death Valley was little known except to the Panamint Indians who lived in the area before the Europeans came. Few people visited the area until the 1870s, when gold was discovered in the surrounding mountains. Since becoming a national park in 1994, Death Valley's extreme environment attracts tourists and scientists.

Question 59. According to the monologue, which one of the statements is correct about Death Valley?

- a) It receives about 20 millimeters of rain per month.
- b) Tourists and scientists started going there in the 1870s.
- c) The Panamint Indians lived there.
- d) Only a few species of plants and animals live there.

Question 60. According to the monologue, which one of the statements is correct about Death Valley?

- a) Bobcats can climb its mountains to escape the strong heat.
- b) Gold was discovered in the surrounding mountains in 1994.
- c) The temperatures can reach to over 50 degrees Celsius.
- d) It is the hottest and driest location in the entire world.

### Monologue 2

You can measure body temperature using the mouth, underarm, or ear. But the temperature can change depending on which one you use, and you will need accurate body temperature to determine if you have a fever. For example, the average normal oral temperature is 37 °C. But the ear temperature is 0.3 to 0.6 °C higher than the oral temperature, while the underarm temperature is 0.3 to 0.6 °C lower than the oral temperature.

One interesting finding about body temperature is that since the 19th century, the average human body temperature in the United States has dropped about 0.4 °C. It was thought this decrease could be due to the difference in accuracy of thermometers, a tool you use to measure body temperature. However, researchers have confirmed that the average body temperature has actually decreased as a result of changes in our environment over the past 200 years.

Question 61. What is this monologue mainly about?

- a) Some facts about human body temperature
- b) Items to use when measuring body temperature
- c) Reasons why body temperature has changed over time
- d) Researchers studying body temperature

Question 62. According to the monologue, which one of the statements is correct about body temperature?

- a) It has increased in the past decades.
- b) It stays the same across different body parts.
- c) It increases as thermometer technology improves.
- d) It has been influenced by environmental changes.

Source

Healthwise Staff "Fever Temperatures: Accuracy and Comparison" KAISER PERMANENTE. August 6, 2023

https://healthy.kaiserpermanente.org/health-wellness/health-encyclopedia/he.fever-temperatures-accuracy-and-comparison.tw9223

Jack J. Lee "Human body temperature has decreased in United States, study finds" Stanford MEDICINE. January 7, 2020

https://med.stanford.edu/news/all-news/2020/01/human-body-temperature-has-decreased-in-united-states.html

## Monologue 3

As the demand for luxury travel rises, airlines are investing in first-class cabins that look like small hotel rooms. Cabins now include sofas, double beds, televisions, desks, wardrobes, minibars, and, in some cases, walk-in showers.

Airlines are putting money into these upgrades despite slow economic growth and rising prices. They believe that since some people missed traveling because of the pandemic, they will be willing to spend more for a luxurious flying experience.

Although fares for first-class seats are over 10 times the price of standard economy seats, there's still demand, either for bookings with cash or with miles accumulated on credit cards during the pandemic.

A German airline, Lufthansa, plans to invest \$2.7 billion to improve some of its aircraft, while Qantas Airways is introducing a new first-class section. Airlines need to attract customers and recover from the financial losses that the pandemic caused.

Question 63. What is this monologue mainly about?

- a) A decrease in first-class passenger numbers on international flights
- b) New efforts made by some airline companies after the pandemic
- c) Changes in the number of travelers before and after the pandemic
- d) Differences in management policies between Lufthansa and Qantas

Question 64. According to the monologue, which one of the statements is correct?

- a) Lufthansa has reduced its airfares to attract customers.
- b) Domestic flights became more popular after the pandemic.
- c) Airline companies are willing to invest in luxurious services.
- d) The value of first-class seats has dropped because of the pandemic.