Audio Scripts

Sample Test
Euroexam Level A1

Listening

Task 1: Short Conversations

Example
Tom I am very hungry. I want to make a sandwich.
Susan Well, there is a bakery over there. Get some sliced bread.
Tom Good, I think I want cheese with brown bread.

The answer is A (picture of selling bread).

Conversation 1
Tom Oh, it is so hot today.
Susan I want chocolate.
Tom You have chocolate. I’ll have vanilla with strawberry.

Conversation 2
Tom I’m thirsty.
Susan Let’s get a bottle of water.
Tom I want a fruit drink.

Conversation 3
Tom Let’s buy it here. They are hot, just out of the oven.
Susan I just want tomato and cheese.
Tom I’ll have a piece with salami, but they can put both slices in the same box.

Conversation 4
Tom Let’s go into that pub. I’ll have a big glass – half a litre.
Susan A small glass for me. I don’t want to drink too much.
Tom Nor me. But it’s a hot day.

Conversation 5
Tom Let’s go into that cafe. I’ll have mine with milk and sugar.
Susan I don’t take sugar.
Tom Shall we have an espresso?

Task 2: Making Notes

Part 6. (What’s John’s favourite drink?) x2
M: Hi, John! How was your weekend?
J: On Saturday morning I had a fantastic breakfast in a little café with Jim, my best friend.
M: Oh, really? Where is it?
J: It’s not far from my house. We ate a lot and had fresh apple juice – my favourite.

Part 7. (Where did John and Jim go in the afternoon?) x2
M: And what did you do in the afternoon?
J: Well, we went down to the beach for a swim. Then it started raining so we came back home early.
M: Oh, that’s not very nice…

Part 8. (What did they see at the cinema?) x2
J: Luckily, we had cinema tickets for the evening, so that was all right.
M: What did you see?
J: It was a comedy, and it was soooo funny! We laughed so much!

Part 9. (What was the language of the film?) x2
J: And do you know what was the best?
M: No, what?
J: Well, you know that I’m learning Russian and this film was in Russian! I could understand almost every word.

Part 10. (How much did they walk on Sunday?) x2
M: Well done. And what about Sunday? What did you do?
J: I got up early because Jim and I went to the mountains. We walked about ten kilometres. It was really sunny and warm.
M: Oh, that’s lovely!
**Task 3: Multiple-Choice Listening**

**(Example)**
Sarah wakes up every morning at 6:45 h.

11. Before she gets out of bed she looks at her smart phone.

12. When she gets up she goes to the bathroom. After that she thinks about her breakfast.

13. She runs along the road to the bus stop. There are not many buses into town.

14. The bus is often full. She must stand. That makes Sarah sad.

15. When she arrives at the office she talks to her friend. She doesn’t drink coffee.

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**Audio Scripts**

Sample Test
Euroexam Level A2

**Listening**

**Task 1: Short Conversations**

**Conversation 1**

Stuart  What else do you have on your list, Mary?

Mary    Well, I still have a couple of things. I need something for my hair.

Stuart  Do you want to colour it?

Mary    Oh, no, I just want to wash it. The bottle at home is almost finished.

**Conversation 2**

Stuart  OK, anything else for the bathroom?

Mary    Let’s see, I don’t have anything else on my list. But I’m not sure…

Stuart  Look at those! They are on sale now and it’s my favourite fresh taste!

Mary    Well, they are still expensive, but it’s still cheaper than going to the dentist…

**Conversation 3**

Stuart  Can we go now?

Mary    No, there are still some groceries on my list. We need something to drink…

Stuart  Fruit juice, perhaps? Or coke?

Mary    No way! I’m not buying soft drinks; they are full of sugar! I want something healthy.

**Conversation 4**

Stuart  What are we having for dinner? Fish or meat?

Mary    Hmmm… some meat perhaps. Shall we buy a whole or just the legs?

Stuart  I’m fine with legs, and they are quicker to roast.
Conversation 5
Stuart Do you want some of these too?
Mary Oh, yes, please. We could make a nice salad. They look really fresh.
Stuart Buy some more, Peter and Katie are coming over for dinner.
Mary Are they? I totally forgot. Let’s buy some more of these green ones.

Conversation 6
Stuart Could we get something for after dinner?
Mary Oh, certainly. Fruit? Cheese?
Stuart No, I don’t want any of those. I’d prefer something cold.
Mary OK, do you want strawberry or chocolate?

Task 2: Making Notes
Hello, good evening. Let’s see tomorrow’s weather. First let’s look at the south. Well, the weather is still going to be quite wet there. The good news is for the west. There will be less rain and we can even see a little sunshine there in the afternoon. The temperature will be around 10 degrees. Now, let’s see the east. After four days of heavy rain, you might not need your umbrella today. Perhaps some clouds but only in the afternoon. In the north, don’t forget your winter coats, it will be dry and sunny but it gets quite cold.

Task 3: Radio Programme
Audio script 1
Interviewer Can I ask you some questions about your travel, Mr Ward?
Mr Ward OK.
Interviewer Oh, great. Do you travel often from here?
Mr Ward Just when we are going on holiday. Every summer.
Interviewer Where are you flying this time? Spain, Italy?

Audio script 2
Interviewer How many languages do you speak, Mr Turner?
Mr Turner Well, I speak French and Spanish. I can read and understand German but I can’t speak it at all.
Interviewer And now you want to study Italian? Why did you decide on it?
Mr Turner Well, it’s close to Spanish so it will be quite easy for me. But most importantly, I love Rome and Italy.
Interviewer Did you only come for the course?
Mr Turner The course is only 6 weeks, and I wanted to stay longer. I’m going home at the end of this year.
Interviewer That’s 8 months, right? Where are you staying here in Rome?
Mr Turner The course offered to find a hotel or an apartment but I didn’t want those.
Interviewer Why not?
Mr Turner I wanted to stay with a host family. I think, this way I can practise the language more.
Audio Scripts

Sample Test
Euroexam Level B1

Listening

Task 1: Short Conversations

Conversation 1
Woman: This is what I like about London.
Man: What’s that?
Woman: The old and the new together. Beautiful old buildings like that one with the columns, towered over by modern office blocks.
Man: Mmm. I’m not so sure I like the mix.

Conversation 2
Woman: There are statues everywhere. Look at that one!
Man: Who is it?
Woman: No idea, but he is certainly looking proud.
Man: He stands out well in front of that church.
Woman: Yeh. It’s a lovely church too – it’s got a great tower.

Conversation 3
Woman: They look as though they’re enjoying themselves!
Man: Who?
Woman: Those young women, sitting in front of the water fountains.
Man: What do you think they’re talking about?
Woman: Looking at the smiles on their faces: boyfriends, I think!

Conversation 4
Woman: That’s a pretty stylish lamp.
Man: A wonderful setting on the riverside too. And is that Tower Bridge?
Woman: Tower Bridge! That’s not the only bridge in London, you know.
Man: OK, clever clogs. What is it called?
Woman: Erm. Well…

Conversation 5
Woman: You told me London didn’t have skyscrapers!
Man: It’s got plenty of new blocks, but nothing like the high buildings you see in New York.
Woman: Well, that one looks pretty tall. Lots more are going up too, by the looks of things.
Man: Yeh. Not a pretty historic building in sight. Just one building site!

Conversation 6
Woman: I love these London parks, so green!
Man: Me too. So many trees, grass, and there’s a water fountain…. So peaceful!
Woman: Yeah, not a person in sight in that one. What more could you want?
Man: Well…. a nice cup of tea!

Task 2: Making Notes

Good morning. My name’s Harry Keller and I’m the director of World School of Languages. It’s great to see so many people here and I hope to see all of you at the school in the future.

Okay, I thought I’d begin today’s talk by giving you an idea of the school and its history.

Well, the school has been giving high quality foreign language lessons for over ten years. We opened our doors to our first students in 1991, when we had a few courses. Since then the demand from students has been amazing. And I’m very proud to say that since the start that many… around 5000 students have passed exams at this school.

The school offers courses in a variety of languages, and not just English. Here you can also study French, Spanish, Japanese and Korean – and all the courses are taught by native speakers. You can also choose the course that is best for you. It’s possible to study on short intensive courses or on longer half-day courses. You can also join a one-year intensive course, but this course is not available to students who don’t have a visa.

If you’re interested in improving your grammar or
speaking then there are special courses for that too. All of our courses start in the summer. On most courses there are four lessons each day. Lessons are always ninety-minutes long and the maximum number of students in each group is thirteen, but the average is eight. At the end of the day you can do some extra studying as the building is open all day. But if you’re tired of learning, then there are lots of things you can do to have fun and relax. You can go to museums, galleries and concerts in London. The school organises days out to other interesting historic cities in England. There are also sports clubs and parties at the school where you can make new friends from around the world. There are also good and cheap restaurants near the school and some excellent cinemas. If you want to enjoy an English pub there are some great ones by the river. It’s also really easy to get into the centre of London, which is only twenty-five minutes away. There you’ll be able to enjoy its world famous nightlife.

Now to perhaps the most important part: how much does this all cost? The average cost is about 400 Euros for a year course. You can look at our website for exact prices. The school is also able to find you accommodation and organise visas. So what do you have to do now? If you’d like to study at World School of Languages then you must register by April and pay ten percent. Right, I hope to see you all in London soon. Does anyone have any questions?

**Task 3: Radio Programme**

Rudolph Hello, and welcome to People Reunited. My name is Rudolph Stone. As you all know this is the programme where people talk about the past and where we bring together people in the present. Today on the programme our first guest is Amanda Peters. Hello, Amanda.

Amanda Hello, Rudolph. I am so happy to be on the programme because I’ve only been on TV once before. It’s really exciting!

Rudolph Well, who is it that you’d like to meet on the programme? Who is your special person? I know, Amanda, but the listeners at home don’t.

Amanda My special person is Mr Kay. I’m now twenty-three and I haven’t seen Mr Kay for a long time. I’d really like to see him again.

Rudolph First of all, Amanda, you’re going to have to tell all the people at home who Mr Kay is.

Amanda Yes, well when I was a child my mother and I lived in a beautiful old house. It was a wonderful house, but far too big for us. My mother decided to rent out rooms on the top floor, and that is when Mr Kay moved in. I came home from school one day and he’d already moved in. Later on, my mother and he became good friends.

Rudolph Did you like Mr Kay?

Amanda Oh yes. It was great having Mr Kay around. He was so happy all the time. You could always hear him singing, particularly when he was in the bath. My mother and I were happy before Mr Kay moved in. Later on, my mother and he became good friends.

Rudolph What did Mr Kay do to make you and your mother so happy?

Amanda Well, Rudolph, he was always laughing and cheerful. In the evening we used to play cards with Mr Kay. If I won he’d give me sweets. Before bed Mr Kay would always make cocoa for the three of us.

Rudolph What did Mr Kay do?

Amanda Well, he used to work in the tax office, but he was already a pensioner when he lived with us. So we could have a lot of time together. He was like a grandfather to me.
Rudolph: So when did you last see Mr Kay?

Amanda: When I was eighteen I went off to University. Mr Kay suddenly moved out while I was away – he didn’t say goodbye or why he was going. Mother and I are great friends; we are so happy when we are together but we never talk about Mr Kay. I don’t know why.

Rudolph: Well, Amanda, what would you like to ask Mr Kay?

Amanda: Well, I have two questions. As my mother and I never talk about Mr Kay anymore, I would like to know why he left so suddenly. What happened?

Rudolph: How about your second question, Amanda?

Amanda: The second question which I would like to ask Mr Kay is what he has done in all those years. You see, he left so suddenly and we haven’t heard anything from him since then.

Rudolph: Well, thank-you, Amanda. Now I’d like to welcome onto the programme Mr Kay himself. Good evening, Mr Kay.

Mr Kay: Good evening, Rudolph. Hello, again, Amanda, how you’ve grown, my dear. I’m very happy to be on the programme this evening.

Rudolph: Well, Mr Kay, let me put Amanda’s second question to you first. What have you been doing since you left the friendly home of Amanda and her mother? Has life been good to you?

Mr Kay: Oh, yes. I’ve had a wonderful life. I travelled a lot and have been to countries not many people have a chance to see. I know it was not very nice of me to leave without saying good-bye but I just had to.

Rudolph: That’s exactly what Amanda’s first question is about. Why did you leave so suddenly? Can you tell us that, Mr Kay?

Mr Kay: Oh dear. Well, first of all I am sorry for the sadness I caused in your family. Now I can talk about it … but I couldn’t for years. Until I had the money. Well, soon after you left for the University I won the lottery. It was a lot of money, you know. I was getting funny phone calls and I got scared and worried for you and your mum. What happens if they find out it was me? So I thought the best solution was to simply disappear …. I am so sorry.

Amanda: Oh, oh no Mr Kay, don’t worry. I’m really very happy for you.
Audio Scripts
Sample Test
Euroexam Level B2

Listening
Task 1: Short Conversations

Conversation 1
Woman: This is my current favourite. It’s like a soundtrack to my life now.
Man: Ah, so you’ve bought it at last! I thought you might.
Woman: Yes. I know it’s been on again and again on the radio but I wanted to own it.
Man: You really should get into sharing. It’s so much easier.
Woman: I suppose so, but I still get a thrill having the hard copy in my hand.

Conversation 2
Woman: I’m so pleased we got this. It’s much quicker than doing everything by hand.
Man: True, though it is more expensive and I’m not sure it’s environmentally friendly.
Woman: It’s better though. Everything comes out really clean and shiny. But I still wouldn’t put our finest crockery in.
Man: OK, I’ve rinsed everything. I’ll stack it all inside now.
Woman: So, we have to choose a programme for the wash. What do you think?
Man: This one will do, it’s only fifteen minutes.

Conversation 3
Man: Why ever do we need new ones?
Woman: Well, I’m really sold on natural materials now. I wanted some filled with real feathers.
Man: The old ones were comfortable enough, I thought.
Woman: You just try these and you’ll feel the difference. You just sink into them. And they smell crispy clean.
Man: OK. I think I’m ready to lay my head down; it’s been a long day. What do you think?

Conversation 4
Man: We must have loads of pairs, but however hard I search, I can never find them!
Woman: Look in the drawer over there. There’ll be some amongst my sewing materials.
Man: Are they suitable for the job, though? They’ve got to be sharp enough for the carpet.
Woman: Ah! Maybe not. Use the ones in the tool box then.
Man: Got them. Wow, they’re sharp!

Conversation 5
Woman: You’ve really filled it up. We can’t possibly get any more in.
Man: Well, it’s much more efficient to do a full load.
Woman: And you do know that the white things have to be done separately.
Man: I know what I’m doing, you know!
Woman: And you have emptied out all the pockets…

Conversation 6
Man: I know you say that I play my music too loudly. Well, with these you won’t hear it at all. I promise.
Woman: Good. I can finally finish the book in peace.
Man: I know this was a bit expensive but you can adjust the volume and tone on each channel.
Woman: Don’t turn it up too loud though or we’ll still hear the bass coming through.

Man: I’m not a teenager any more! But anyway, it’s got great isolation.

Task 2: Making Notes

Hi Robin, it’s Nora! Don’t get too excited - I’m still in Kintekunta. I’d have preferred to talk to you and not to a machine, but … I’ve been having a wonderful holiday, but last night I had a bit of a nightmare. While I was walking on the beach, somebody broke into my hotel and stole my passport, plane tickets and credit cards. So, here I am at the moment, with nothing except the cash that I had on me and for some reason my camera, which the burglar either didn’t see or didn’t like. Since I’m stuck here for a few days can you do a few extra things for me? First of all, my folks must be really worried, so for starters, could you give my sister a ring? She’ll tell my mum and dad. And there’s one more family issue to deal with: to sort my grandmother out. She’s arriving tomorrow, I don’t suppose you’d mind picking her up and taking her to my new flat – she’s never been there before and she’s expecting someone to meet her. She arrives at the airport at 11.30 from Glasgow… and just keep an eye out for her until I get back, in case she needs something. She should be OK, though.

I’ve already managed to cancel the credit cards, so no worries about that and I’ve just about got the cash to get home. The only problem is that the electricity bill is overdue and they’ll cut me off if it isn’t paid by tomorrow. Can you go to my flat and pick up the bill? It should be on the desk next to that big book about Africa. If you can pay it, I’ll give you the money when I get back. There are 4 or 5 bills on the desk but the others can wait – although you could water the plants as well while you’re there.

One last thing: my university work. I have an assignment due on Friday - I obviously won’t be able to hand it in. Would you mind getting in touch with professor Philips and letting him know what happened so that he knows I’m not just being lazy? Ask him if it’s OK if I hand it in next Friday. Tell him I’m really sorry.

Oh, my God I almost forgot: the party is off as well. Can you let people know? A big kiss to everyone and tell them we’ll have it as soon as we get home. Thanks a million for sorting everything out. You’re such a treasure … and sorry again for this mess.

Task 3: Radio Programme

Presenter: Good evening everybody. Tonight in the studio we’re lucky enough to have a local boy, somebody who’s been through it all. Previously he worked for three years showing tourists around the city; but since then he’s tasted success as a member of boyband sensation Hate Tat and experienced the bitter disappointment of being dropped by his record company; but he remains probably the nicest bloke in pop. So Mike you’re back?

Mike: Yes, I am and back for good this time, I hope.

Presenter: And you are still smiling, I see. But was that always the case? How was life without a record deal?

Mike: Well, of course it was difficult. I forget exactly how many years I’d been with them, and, you know, I think I’d got used to it and it had become too comfortable. So I’ve been positive about it. The experience has made me much more determined to succeed and to prove myself again.

Presenter: You mean it’s made you push yourself harder?

Mike: Yes, it’s made me think about what I’m writing about more.
Presenter: Do you think you’ve learnt anything from this experience?

Mike: I spent quite a few years at home watching music videos, and reading biographies and poetry. I was living in music and always waiting for this to happen…

Presenter: I see.

Mike: There were times I never thought that it would get going again. So I’m really trying to make the most of everything I’m doing, grabbing everything and trying to enjoy it all as much as possible.

Presenter: So how does it feel to be back in music?

Mike: To be honest I’ve never left it. I love music, I’ve always been a big fan of music and I’ve always been writing songs. Even when I never had a deal, I was still at home writing songs because it’s what I get the most pleasure out of doing.

Presenter: So how much of the material on the new album is your own work?

Mike: Well, probably over fifty percent of the songs are mine. I was really happy with some of that stuff. In fact, it’s some of the best stuff I’ve written.

Presenter: And is it any different to your earlier work?

Mike: Well, I worked with some really cool people while making this record. I wrote some tracks with Bernard Butler and some stuff with Ian McCulloch. They have a different approach. It’s been healthy to try different things, to see how other people put together their ideas. As a writer, I think you’re always trying to learn new things and different arrangements, so it has been a really fun experience for me.

Presenter: That’s right! I’ve been blown away by the response.

Mike: And of course your hoards of adoring fans have been buying it as fast as they can put it on the shelves. It’s already a bestseller. So I’d now like to open the telephone lines up to some of your fans. I’m sure they’ve got a lot of questions they’d like to ask you. First, Kelly from Barnsley, what would you like to ask Mike?

Kelly: Mike, I think you’re the loveliest person ever. You are so sweet, I love you…!

Mike: Thank you, Kelly.

Kelly: And I think your new CD is fantastic! The tunes are okay, but it’s your voice that makes it so fantastic! What I want to know is, when will you be coming to Barnsley?

Mike: Well, hopefully I’ll be going on a nationwide tour this spring. I’m hoping to play concerts at at least ten places and one of them will be near Barnsley. I hope you can make it, Kelly.

Kelly: Oh, why does no-one ever come to Barnsley? I’d like to ask you one more thing. Do you ever meet up with the other members from Hate Tat since you split up?

Mike: Unfortunately, I’ve lost contact with most of the band, but I still meet Rob. We go out for a drink or for something to eat if we’re in the same city.

Kelly: Unfortunately, I’ve lost contact with most of the band, but I still meet Rob. We go out for a drink or for something to eat if we’re in the same city.

Presenter: Thanks Kelly, two excellent questions. Before we go to our next caller can I just ask what you think have been the major changes in the industry since you first began in Hate Tat?
Mike: I think the industry’s a lot more cut-throat, you know, it’s much harder these days for new bands trying to breakthrough. When I think back Hate Tat were lucky; Our first three singles were disasters; they barely made the Top 40. If that happens to a band now they’re immediately dropped. There isn’t the time to keep on trying. They don’t get any second chances.

Presenter: I’ve also often wondered whether coming from Manchester has influenced your music at all?

Mike: I like Manchester people. I like the city. I like the ideas that people have there. I like the attitude that people have there. I think that has stuck with me.

Presenter: OK, thank you, Mike. That’s enough of my questions. Let’s get back to the phones and to our next caller, Sharon from Salford.

Audio Scripts
Sample Test
Euroexam Level C1
Listening
Task 1: Short Conversations

Conversation 1

John: What idiots we are, Justine, to come walking in this forest without a map. I should have bought one. And we’re crazy for straying from the marked paths. Luckily the weather is holding up.

Justine: Well, it’s your fault, I thought you had a map in your pocket, John. Now I’m sure we’ll come back to the main track if we head that way. We had that hill top on the right of us earlier.

John: It can’t be that way. You’ve lost all sense of direction; the stream we’ve been following has curved round to the left.

Justine: But it must be right if it is the same stream, we crossed earlier.

John: Well, it can’t be, can it? - unless it does a 180 degree turn.

Conversation 2

John: Now, Justine, stop fooling around, all we have to do is to continue straight along here and we’ll find the main track.

Justine: It goes on for ever. Can you take me piggy-back?

John: Not when we are going up hill. You can see the path starts to go up soon.

Justine: Yes, it stretches into the horizon and I’m fed up with it. Here take my bag and let me get onto your shoulders.
John  

Oh come on and sober up. We want to get out of here before it gets dark.

Conversation 3

John  

Now, I'm sure we'll be fine if we continue along this forest track. It must curve round with the stream and join that small road further up.

Justine  

Can you give me my bag? I need to check my emails. I actually have important things to do as well.

John  

I haven't got it, Justine. I thought you had it on your shoulder. You can't have dropped it.

Justine  

Oh, John this is ruining my whole day. It was quite fun until now. I had everything in that bag.

John  

Don't panic, Justine. I know where it is exactly. It's by that fallen tree where we had a rest. It's just a major irritation that we need to go back to get it.

Conversation 4

John  

I can see light at the end of the tunnel. We just need to climb up this hill and then we are back on the main track.

Justine  

You don't have the first clue of where we are, John. Don't give me that serious look which you use on your clients at work. I'm knackered and I don't care where we're going any more. It's quite funny really.

John  

Here take my hand, let me pull you up. You may be right we are not where I think we are. But look, here is a track for vehicles; we haven't seen one of those for some time.

Justine  

But if forks and then look in the other direction where it forks again. I mean, it's hopeless, isn't it?

John  

Well.

Justine  

It's a bit of an arbitrary choice really, isn't it? We just have to accept that we are lost.

Task 2: Making Notes

Examiner  

What is the significance of the following figures?: 6000, 1000, 1537

Speaker  

I was introduced to you as an expert on potatoes but in many ways we are all experts on the subject: you've all eaten potatoes, probably cooked them in many different ways and, I am sure, a lot of you have grown them too. But I wonder how many of you know anything about where they first came from. Well, they originated in the windswept mountains of the Andes in South America about 8000 years ago and it was 6000 years ago that they were first cultivated in Peru. People were impressed by their ruggedness, storage quality and nutritional value. The potato was also believed to have medicinal qualities and was rubbed on the skin of sick patients as a remedy. One interesting fact is that the Peruvians have around 1000 words to describe potatoes and potato varieties!

Centuries later, the invading Spanish conquistadors also became very fond of the Peruvians' potatoes. The Spaniards had been on the look out for gold and jewels but potatoes became one of the exotic finds they excitedly brought back to Europe to impress royalty in 1536. In the following year 1537, potato dishes were presented to the royal court as a new speciality. The word 'potato' known in Spanish as 'patata' is derived from the word 'batata'.

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What is the significance of the following figures?: 6000, 1000, 1537

(2 minute pause)

Examiner Which 3 reasons are given for the initial unpopularity of the potato in Europe?

Speaker And so the potato was brought to Europe and cultivated here. Though the tuber was productive and hardy, it was for some time not held in high regard. The Spanish put it to very limited use: many Spanish considered it food for the underprivileged only, as later did many other Europeans.

It would take three decades for the potato to spread to the rest of Europe. Throughout much of the continent it was at first cultivated primarily as a curiosity by amateur botanists. Part of the resistance to using it was due to ingrained eating habits. Well established vegetables such as turnips and other root crops and grains like oats and barley remained popular.

The potato is a member of the nightshade family and its leaves are poisonous. A potato left too long in the light will begin to turn green. The green skin contains a substance called solanine which can cause illness in humans. This relationship to poisonous plants was a very important reason why the potato was not widely accepted as a food.

Such drawbacks were understood in Europe, but the advantages, generally, were not. Europe would wait until the 1780s before the potato gained prominence anywhere. At this time the people of Ireland adopted the rugged food crop. The primary reason for its acceptance in Ireland was its ability to produce abundant and nutritious food.

Which 3 reasons are given for the initial unpopularity of the potato in Europe?

(2 minute pause)

Examiner Which inventions or developments are associated with the following names: George Crum; NASA; Luigi Giavanni?

Speaker Potatoes provided sustenance for much of the Irish population. Indeed, the Irish became so dependent on this crop that its failure in the mid 1800s provoked a famine. By this time potatoes had become commonly eaten in many European countries as well in America and Asia.

Sometimes people discovered how versatile the potato was by accident. In 1853, chef George Crum served a dish of potatoes to a prominent businessman who rejected them for being too thick. Enraged, Crum sliced them incredibly thin, fried them in hot oil and threw salt over them before sending them back to the dissatisfied customer. Amazingly, the customer thoroughly enjoyed them. And so potato crisps were invented.

Potatoes are still making history. A special variety was developed by NASA to feed astronauts on long space voyages.

Potatoes are used in a huge variety of dishes. Sometimes the whole potato is used but often the skin is removed before cooking. In 1959 an Italian man called Luigi Giavanni devised the Automatic Potato Peeler when he was working in a pizza bar in the USA. The initial design was not without problems: in its development many bags of potatoes were wasted.
Today, the potato is so common and pervasive in the Western diet that it is taken for granted. It’s easy to forget that it has only been with us for a few hundred years.

Which inventions or developments are associated with the following names: George Crum; NASA; Luigi Giavanni?

(2 minute pause)

That is the end of the task.

Task 3: Radio Programme

Sally Hello and welcome to the programme ‘I survived it’. My name is Sally Colin. On the programme today we have Chris Reninson who has survived something that fortunately few of us ever have to face. Hello, Chris. Welcome to the programme.

Chris Hello, Sally. Thanks for the invitation.

Sally Now, Chris, the whole incident happened as a result of a business party, didn’t it?

Chris That’s right. I work as a management consultant in a local consultancy. A company which we do a lot of business with was holding a summer party for their senior staff and my firm received an invitation. I was selected to go.

Sally So you were looking forward to the event?

Chris Not really. I value my Friday evenings and spending them with business partners is not my idea of fun at all. I went, yet again, out of a sense of obligation to my firm. That’s all.

Sally Well, can you say something about the event?

Chris Yes, there were ten of us, and the party was held on a boat which sailed out into the middle of Lake Grenberg during the night. I have to say the weather was fantastic: the day had been boiling and that evening you could feel the heat radiating up from the water.

Sally So it was a really small boat?

Chris No, it had a tiny cabin and kitchen where the food and drinks were served. The food though was all prepared beforehand.

Sally Did you enjoy the party before the accident?

Chris To be honest it was worse than I had anticipated. The four other men got drunk very quickly and either fell asleep or staggered around the boat causing it to rock all over the place. The women were just drunk and boring. I ended up having a long meaningless chat with one about a cat she had had when she was a child.

Sally So when did you realise something was wrong?

Chris Well, it all happened in a flash. One of the men came up from the cabin, laughing with an open beer bottle in his hand, and said the boat was taking water and would go under. All sorts of scenarios flashed though my mind. Then literally a second later we were under water. There was total darkness everywhere.

Sally Oh, My God, you couldn’t have been expecting that?
Chris: Of course not. Nobody could have. I came up to the surface and could hear a couple of screams in the distance, but I was not aware from where exactly.

Sally: So what was your first thought?

Chris: I saw immediately that it was up to everyone to swim for him or herself. I was totally disoriented, I'm not a trained lifeguard and it looked like several kilometres to the shore. There was no way I could swim that distance dragging someone after me.

Sally: So you set out for the shore immediately then?

Chris: Yes, I wanted to conserve my energy for swimming. Fortunately I could see the light on the roof of the Grenberg monastery on the hill behind the town. I swam towards it. I thought it might take me a couple of hours.

Sally: So you thought you could get to shore and alert the rescue service.

Chris: Yes, that seemed the obvious thing to do, but the swim lasted all through the night. Of course it was tiring, but I had little choice other than to keep going. The first light of the day even appeared on the horizon which was strangely reassuring. Finally I could see the little harbour of Grenberg ahead.

Sally: And what happened to the other party goers on the boat?

Chris: Strangely enough, all of them made it. They got to the northern shore, which is heavily forested. As it turned out it was a lot nearer to where the boat went down, though there was nothing to guide them swimming at night. They were lucky enough to be heard by a group partying on the shore. They called the rescue people. By the time I got ashore, they'd all been taken to the hospital.

Sally: Were you then taken to hospital?

Chris: No, it wasn't necessary. I was simply exhausted. After a chat with the rescue services, Jack gave me a lift home. My wife was asleep when I got in and I went to sleep without waking her.

Sally: What was that?

Chris: Well, an old friend of mine, Jack Duval, was sitting on a bench in the harbour busily writing away. He's one of our two local novelists and he often gets up early in summer to write, though he usually works in the summer house in his garden. I was able to use his mobile phone to alert the authorities.

Sally: Did anyone see you coming?

Chris: Well it was four in the morning so I didn't expect anyone to be around. I also had shed my clothes to help me swim. I swam into the harbour and clamoured up the harbour steps onto the quay. I had a great surprise.

Sally: What was that?

Chris: I never had any nightmares about all this. To be honest I quickly forgot about it.

Sally: Thank you, Chris. Now we have our first caller on the line, Mr Hemmingway.
Audio Scripts
Sample Test
Euroexam Academic Level C1

Listening
Task 1: Short Conversations

Conversation 1
Mr Moller It’s funny isn’t it, Jasmine, to see this place empty and quiet and no young people lounging around? In fact it’s better this way.
Jasmine Well, Mr Moller, it needs repainting before the start of next term. The students chose a green colour.
Mr Moller And how long were we waiting for a decision from them? Mind you, it won’t stay green for long.
Jasmine What do you mean, Mr Moller?
Mr Moller I mean, they carry on like pigs in here. Beer and food on the wall. Strictly speaking, there should be no food consumed in here. But what are rules for, if not to be broken. Still the room fulfils its function and has been quite successful, I suppose.
Jasmine Oh, Mr Moller, you were a student once.

Conversation 2
Mr Moller This room has never really been fit for purpose, Jasmine. At a push you can get ten people in here.
Jasmine Well, that’s enough, isn’t it? I suppose the place for the teacher is a bit cramped. There’s just enough space for him to turn round and write on the whiteboard. We are replacing the table in here, aren’t we?
Mr Moller I’m not sure it’s worthwhile, Jasmine.
Jasmine Perhaps we could have a smaller one – or maybe do away with it altogether?
Mr Moller Why would we do that, Mr Moller?
Jasmine Well, there are several ideas in the pipeline; nothing sorted yet. One proposal is to increase the numbers in the group.
Mr Moller I see, now. It’s part of the economy drive.

Conversation 3
Mr Moller This is the best one in the whole college, Jasmine. The acoustics in the room are excellent.
Jasmine That’s right. The room is beginning to look a bit tatty, though.
Mr Moller It certainly is. I have high hopes for it too.
Jasmine You want to spend a lot of money in here, Mr Moller?
Mr Moller It’s worth it. Here will be the showcase for the whole college. Prominent people can address the region and the world from that lectern, Jasmine.
Jasmine Yes, Mr Moller.

Conversation 4
Mr Moller I’m planning a total refurbishment in here, Jasmine. You need to keep the teachers on-side.
Jasmine Do you have any specific ideas or shall we just replace things, but leave the layout of the room as it is?
Mr Moller Actually I want it to look more like it did two decades ago, if it can be done. The atmosphere was friendlier then. I have a head full memories. I was only promoted to principal in 1989 you know.
Jasmine I see, Mr Moller. I shall leave that up to you then. Are you consulting the teachers as body?
Mr Moller I will, but I won’t take much notice. Look that was where my easy chair used to be.
Jasmine That chair was probably thrown away before I was born, Mr Moller. Let’s move on to the next room, now.

Task 2: Making Notes

Today I’d like to take a more detailed look at the main ideological driving force behind the 1947 partition of India, when India, of course, gained independence from British rule and the states of India and Pakistan were established. Now, of course the theory behind this is crucial in understanding partition and its consequences, and it also has resonance for our current global order, when we think for example about the new nuclear arms race and Islamic fundamentalism, and, what we could call, the insecurities we feel today.

So, I’d like to look at the topic in a few respects. Firstly, the basics, I mean what’s behind the whole idea. Then, and I suppose this is really a part of the basics, the question of territorial vs non-territorial interpretations of nationhood in this case, and what this means in terms of co-existence, and then I’d like to mention just briefly a little of the debate post-partition – which is something that continues actually, but anyway, let’s go back to the beginning...

So, at its simplest, the idea behind the two-nation theory is, as you probably know, that Indian Hindus and Indian Muslims are two distinct nations. Now here, we are talking about a very specific concept of religious national identity that differentiates it from classical definitions of national identity. So rather than the unifying denominator of either group being language or ethnicity, it bases the primary identity on religion instead. So this theory was a founding principle of the Pakistan Movement – that’s the movement which sought to create an independent Pakistan as a nation-state, and of course, concurrent with that, of the partition of India in 1947.

The movement for the awakening of Muslims to their own identity was led by Muhammad Ali Jinnah – and he went on to be the first governor general of Pakistan, but he died not long after – his birthday actually is still a national holiday in Pakistan today, and this idea of religion as being the basis for national identity was central for his leadership in campaigning for the separate Pakistani state.

The concept was also central to several Hindu nationalist organisations – who sought to benefit from the establishment of an exclusively Hindu state via the expulsion of Muslims. Some of them desired the redefinition of Indian Muslims as non-Indian foreigners and second-class citizens in India. It even led to the prohibition of conversions to Islam, and the promotion of conversions or re-conversions of Indian Muslims to Hinduism.

So, the theory viewed Indian Hindus and Indian Muslims as two separate nations, despite great variations in language, in culture and in ethnicity within each of the groups. And there are some obvious difficulties with this. Critics said that groups of radically varying ethnicities and languages who shared the territory that is, lived in the same place with other groups could not be a nation. But of course it depends on your concept of nation. Although so-called Western education and thought had had a great influence on the subcontinent – for example, Jinnah himself studied in London – proponents of the theory argued that the concept of nation in the East was different from that in the West. And Jinnah asserted that Islam and Hinduism were more than religions in the narrow sense of the word, but instead were different and all-pervading social orders.

So we can see that a complex definition of nationality was born which combined religious identity with social commonalities or characteristics. If one was a Muslim, you had much more in common with a Muslim in another country than with someone in your country who wasn’t Muslim.

The concept of a territory-based nation was also rejected as anti-Islamic by Muhammad Iqbal, the poet-philosopher. Now, he was a big influence on Jinnah, and promoted the concept of pan-Islamic nationhood. For him, the goal was a unified Muslim society.

Now, at the practical level, if one accepts the two-nation theory, one faces the issue of coexistence. Are two distinct different nations going to live in the same territory? There are varying interpretations of the two-nation theory. Some are based on whether the two religious communities can coexist in one territory or not. And as you can guess, the answer
has radical implications.
On the one hand we had the school which argued for sovereign autonomy, including the right to secede, for Muslim-majority areas of the Indian subcontinent, but without transferring any populations. So you would still have Hindus and Muslims coexisting in the same territory.

And on the other side were those who contended that Hindus and Muslims couldn't coexist in one nation because they had two different ways of life. In this version, population transfer would be necessary in order to separate the two nations. And of course the tragic events of the Partition were a consequence of this second view.

As I mentioned, since partition, the theory has continued to be debated and criticized. One vocal critic was the first president of the Pakistan Muslim League, Chaudry Khaliquzzaman, who wrote that the two-nation theory had created what he called ‘bad blood’ against the Muslims in the minority provinces, and had driven an ‘ideological’ wedge between the Hindus and the Muslims.

And it's interesting that Jinnah really seemed to change his views – in his speech on 11 August 1947, so right on the eve of partition, he talked about composite Pakistani nationalism, rather than faith-based nationalism. He actually announced that non-Muslims would be equal citizens of Pakistan and would face no discrimination. In contrast to his earlier views he said that people could belong to any religion or caste and that it had, to quote him, “nothing to do with the business of the state.”

Finally, if we look at what happened after partition, it could also be evidence against the two-nation theory. About one-third of all Indian Muslims actually continued to live in post-partition India as Indian citizens alongside the much larger Hindu majority. And then of course the subsequent partition of Pakistan itself into present-day Pakistan and Bangladesh was also cited by some as proof that religion was not the defining or determining factor for nationhood and that Muslims as Muslims did not constitute one nation.

- **Definition**
  1. What is the basic principle of the two-nation theory? What kind of identity does it construct? (1 pt)
  2. Which groups hoped to gain from this theory and what did they pursue? (2 pts)

- **Territoriality**
  3. On what grounds was a religion-based concept of nationhood defended? (2 pts)
     » in general by supporters of the theory?
     » in more detail by Jinnah?

- **The question of co-existence**
  4. Describe the two imagined solutions to the problem of coexistence. (2 pts)

- **Post-partition debate**
  5. Which two facts could be argued to prove the invalidity of the two-nation theory? (2 pts)

**Task 3: Radio Programme**

**Interviewer** Good afternoon everybody. On the programme today we have Councillor Arnie Fischer who has represented the district of Babylon on the city council for twenty-two years and was re-elected with a reduced majority last month. Good afternoon, Councillor.

**Arnie Fischer** Good afternoon.

**Interviewer** In the programme what I wanted to focus on today is the system of local economic trading which you are associated with in the town. Now, I don't want any technical details, as this is a non-specialist programme, but can you give us an overview of what the system is?
Arnie Fischer  
Well, I am not the founder, but I have rallied my party's support on the council behind the scheme. The scheme was initiated by a collective of unemployed people a couple of years ago, who approached me for support. I was enthusiastic from the outset. But today most of the key people have jobs and run the scheme in their free time.

Interviewer  
OK, that said. What is the scheme?

Arnie Fischer  
Our town and region are in the depth of a massive recession. What that means is that there are high levels of unemployment with people who have skills doing nothing, therefore contributing nothing to the economy. While at the same time, the unemployed themselves suffer deprivation and poverty.

Interviewer  
And so what is the scheme? Not everybody in the town is involved in it or understands it.

Arnie Fischer  
OK, I can sum it up for you. All participants in the scheme – which include not just the unemployed, but also people with jobs – receive a certain number of tokens printed by the Council. All they have to do is ask for them. We call them LETs taken from the initials of “Local Economic Trading.” With these they can buy services from other people.

Interviewer  
And how does that help the unemployed?

Arnie Fischer  
Well, I'd have thought that was obvious. Let me give you an example. An unemployed family needs its toilet fixing so it pays a plumber with LETs; the plumber has a child who needs maths tutoring, so he pays a teacher in LETS, the teacher needs a haircut, so she pays the hairdresser in LETs. And so on.

Interviewer  
Most people say this is just a means of getting round welfare rules. You can't earn money and claim welfare.

Arnie Fischer  
I don't exactly know who you mean by most people. The purpose of the scheme is for ordinary working people to help themselves; whether that has implications for the welfare payments for some people is a separate issue. After all, if someone gets a part-time job, that has implications for welfare payments, but nobody says well, don't do the part-time job.

Interviewer  
Why can’t people just use money to trade?

Arnie Fischer  
Well, the simple reason is they don't have any. If the government printed money and gave it out I'm sure they would.

Interviewer  
Last week we had Hector Jenner, the president of the Chamber of Commerce, on the programme and he made the following point. LETs are a complete waste of time. As he said if a community has less money all they have to do is work for less. He blamed high wages.

Arnie Fischer  
Yes. I have crossed swords with Mr Jenner in the past. In his mind economic activity could be brought about if people worked for ten eurocents an hour, but that simply won’t happen. It's a matter of human dignity.
Interviewer: But you say that, but every night in the pubs LETs are being exchanged for money. The first thing that people do when they earn a LET is to change it to Euros.

Arnie Fischer: No, some people do that. There is nothing the scheme organisers can do to stop the LETs being traded. But the majority of the scheme participants don’t change them.

Interviewer: So the scheme’s working perfectly?

Arnie Fischer: No, it isn’t. But it can be defended against some of the more ill informed criticisms which you have made on this programme.

Interviewer: Well, they seem to be held by many people around the town. It’s interesting that you are the politician most strongly identified with the scheme, and your vote fell in the last local election.

Arnie Fischer: Yes, it did, but if you look at the working class areas of my district where I get most of my votes there was no fall at all. The decrease is accounted for by richer people moving into one part of the district near the city centre.

Interviewer: Or so you say.

Arnie Fischer: Yes, I do say. I sometimes wonder whether you are interested in helping the listeners know more about the LET scheme in the town, or merely using the opportunity to display ignorance and lack of manners.

Interviewer: OK, Councillor Fischer, we have our first caller on the line, Mr Hemmingway.