

DRŽAVNO NATJECANJE IZ ENGLESKOGA JEZIKA
za 8. razrede osnovnih škola
2020./2021.

SLUŠANJE S RAZUMIJEVANJEM

This is the listening part of the state competition. Open your tests to page 2.

You will hear a recording about a school project on famous women.

You will have time to read through the task before you listen. Write your answers on the test first, but don't forget to copy your answers onto the Answer Sheet when you finish. The recording will be played twice, and there will be a short pause between the two listenings. You can write your answers during both the first and the second listening.

Listen to the text very carefully. Read the sentences and circle the correct option: A, B, or C. There is an example at the beginning (0). Write the correct letter on the Answer Sheet.

You now have 30 seconds to go through the task.

Now you will hear the recording.

Our English teacher is constantly giving us projects to do. Three weeks before Christmas, she came to the classroom and fired off: "Guess what! I have a new project for you! You have to ask your grandparents or senior neighbours how Christmas was celebrated 50 years ago. In 3 weeks, you will present your findings to the class in any tool you like – use your imagination and creativity!" She never lets any holidays or important days in history go by without turning them into a project – how utterly boring! Don't get me wrong, she doesn't give us tons of homework, or too many bad marks, but projects?! Please!

Last February, just as we were finishing our presentations on "Great love couples from history", she came up with the idea for our March project. Although she sometimes lets us choose from the topic tasks she prepares, this time she brought a canvas bag and each of the students had to pull out a piece of paper from it. There were names we had to do some research on – all women. I knew some of the names, but was at a loss for most. My piece of paper read: Malala Yousafzai. Who is this person? Is she still alive? How come I don't know this name? To be honest, I thought this would be a terrible project. I couldn't have been more wrong.

Let me tell you about Malala. She was born in 1997 in Pakistan, where people are not particularly happy to have daughters and pay little attention to raising and educating them. Her father was an exception. He ran a school in their village because he strongly believed that all children, boys or girls, rich or poor, should receive decent education. That is why she was able to go to school even though they were not rich. However, her relatively peaceful life changed when she was only 11 years old. The Pakistani Taliban, an army of religious extremists, came to power and all girls were forbidden to go to school. Can you imagine that? I sometimes hate going to school, and I would always rather spend my day hiking or swimming in the sea, but I cannot imagine someone telling me I am not allowed to go any more. Malala didn't like that girls were denied their right to an education and she spoke publicly against this policy. As you can imagine, the Taliban didn't like this one bit. One day, a Taliban soldier stopped her bus, asked who Malala was, and when she said, "I am Malala." – shot her in the head! Luckily, and quite miraculously, she survived. She was taken to the UK and underwent numerous surgeries and a long recovery. While I was reading about her ordeal, I thought that after going through this, she would be scared to death and never speak in public again. I seriously misjudged her determination.

After her recovery, Malala became a spokesperson for every girl on the planet, advocating their right to be educated. Together with her father she established Malala Fund – a charity dedicated to helping girls achieve whatever they want. In 2014, at the age of 17, she received the Nobel Peace Prize, being the youngest person ever to get it. Despite being an incredibly engaged human rights activist, giving speeches and travelling the world, she managed to graduate from Oxford last year, proving to herself, as well as others, that there is nothing a determined and hardworking young person can't do.

More enthusiastically than ever, I did my research, visited Malala's website, and listened to some of her speeches. It was exhausting, but I was very pleased with the result and I was looking forward to giving my presentation in class. I was not only in awe of this incredible young woman, but also a bit ashamed I hadn't heard about her before. I was also extremely grateful to my English teacher for giving us this project, because I have learnt so much about many amazing women who fought throughout history in so many different ways so that today my girlfriends and I could be able to have the same opportunities as our brothers and boys next door. Even though I believe we are still not at the end of our fight, Malala and all the girls and women like her paved the way and helped us get closer to it.

Count silently to 5 and then say the following :

You will now hear the recording again.

After the second reading, say the following:

You now have 1 minute to check your answers and copy them onto the Answer Sheet.

After 1 minute, say the following:

This is the end of the listening task. You may now go on to do the other parts of the test.