

**DRŽAVNO NATJECANJE IZ ENGLESKOGA JEZIKA**  
**za 2. razred srednje škole**  
**ŠKOLSKA GODINA 2024./2025.**

<b>SLUŠANJE S RAZUMIJEVANJEM</b>
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Good morning. May I have your attention, please?

This is the listening part of the State Competition test. There are two tasks in the listening part. You will hear each recording twice and you will have time to read through the items in each task before the recording begins.

While you are listening, write your answers on the task itself. You may cross out your answers, change them, make notes, or underline words if you wish to. After the second listening, you will have **one** minute to check your answers and copy your **FINAL** answers onto the separate Answer Sheet.

You must do this carefully and clearly, and you must not change what you write on your final Answer Sheet in any way. Open your tests at page 1.

**Task 1**

You will hear a recording about the **Haggis**. You have to decide whether the statements are true or false.

You will hear the recording 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. After hearing the recording for the second time, you will have **one** minute to check your answers and copy them onto the separate Answer Sheet.

You now have **thirty** seconds to read through the statements in Task 1.

**(30 seconds)**

You will now hear the recording.

Scotland has plenty of iconic dishes that are known around the world, but arguably none are as famous as haggis. One of the most enduring symbols of Scottish heritage, haggis has been eaten in the country for hundreds of years.

Even if you have never tried the dish, you have probably at the very least heard of it. Haggis is a savoury dish that consists of minced sheep's organs, oatmeal, onions, and spices. It is traditionally stuffed into a sheep's stomach and cooked, but these days it is common to find it in synthetic sausage casing.

With Burns Night taking place in January, Scots around the country will be tucking into haggis. This is because it is customary to eat the national dish as part of a traditional Burns supper on (or around) the birthday of the iconic poet Robert Burns.

The exact origin of haggis remains a mystery, but it is thought that similar dishes of meat cooked inside an animal's stomach have been eaten since ancient times. Some think it was brought to Scotland by the Romans, while others say it was imported from Scandinavia or even France as far back as the 8th century. The origin of the word 'haggis' itself is also not fully understood. However, it is believed that it may come from the Scots word 'hag', meaning to chop or hew.

For centuries, haggis was a popular dish amongst the poor in Scotland. While clan chiefs and lords would have easy access to the finest cuts of meat, the lower classes would often have to rely on the nourishing offal that would have otherwise been thrown away. Of course, these days haggis is a delicacy that is beloved simply for its taste. It is common to find it on both the menus of traditional Scottish fine dining restaurants and at your local butcher.

When it comes to Burns Night, the reason haggis is eaten is simply to honour Robert Burns. The poet's 1787 poem 'Address to a Haggis' is a big reason why the dish is such an important aspect of Scottish identity today. At the time when Burns was alive, haggis would have been a readily available meal thanks to its low cost. It can be assumed that the bard was a fan of the dish, given its affectionate mention in 'Address to

a Haggis'. Following Burns' death in 1796, his friends came together for a meal to celebrate the poet where they served haggis in his memory. From here, the tradition of Burns suppers spread across the country — with haggis always being the centrepiece.

(Adapted from: [https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/scotland-now/history-haggis-scotland-national-dish-34532553?utm\\_source=daily\\_record\\_newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=main\\_scotlandnow\\_newsletter&utm\\_content=&utm\\_term=&ruid=7cc80509-4789-4625-ab6b-5cf6523f531a&hx=69a977de6d3ae16a497c0df48e64510dda2961227f6dcdb7e88b0df0d45046a3](https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/scotland-now/history-haggis-scotland-national-dish-34532553?utm_source=daily_record_newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=main_scotlandnow_newsletter&utm_content=&utm_term=&ruid=7cc80509-4789-4625-ab6b-5cf6523f531a&hx=69a977de6d3ae16a497c0df48e64510dda2961227f6dcdb7e88b0df0d45046a3))

You will now hear the recording again.

**(After the second reading, say the following:)**

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

**(After one minute, say the following:)**

This is the end of the first listening task.

Now please turn to pages 1 and 2.

## **Task 2**

You will hear a recording about **a documentary called “Buy Now! The Shopping Conspiracy”**. You have to choose from A, B, C, D as the best answer.

You will hear the recording 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. After hearing the recording for the second time, you will have **one** minute to check your answers and copy them onto the separate Answer Sheet. You now have **thirty** seconds to read through the questions in Task 2.

**(30 seconds)**

You will now hear the recording.

Buy Now! The Shopping Conspiracy is a subversive documentary that unpacks the tricks that the brands use to keep their customers consuming – and the real impact they have on our lives and the world.

Buy Now! is ostensibly a documentary about a serious topic, but it is presented in the type of sensationalist-infotainment package that renders it a prime slab of Netflix. The aim is to expose the dark underbelly of modern consumerism, digging into how modern tech companies, clothing designers and e-commerce businesses get people to buy more and more things without considering what will happen to them once they are no longer useful.

This sure is a compelling topic.

In the film, we can see typical documentary techniques used to make a point, such as talking heads and archival footage. However, it also deploys an annoying AI bot narrator that you would want to ship to the landfill shown on screen which is, amongst other things, overflowing with old phones, toys and clothing that we all have thrown away.

The gist of the documentary is that the big bads are Amazon, Adidas and Apple. These are global behemoth conglomerates worth zillions of dollars. They are creating and selling “objects of desire” that are designed to be used for a short amount of time, then pitched into the dumpster for the newer, enhanced versions of said objects. The film’s goal is to illustrate how these companies crassly exploit the idea of “planned obsolescence” for their products by designing tech and clothing to be disposable, hence essentially brainwashing consumers into buying the products over and over again, never considering the consequences of throwing these things away.

There are three interviewees as key contributors, each a sort-of whistleblower, sharing the troublesome practices of their ex-employers, Amazon, Adidas and Apple. They talk about how online shopping platforms are designed to make it easy to manipulate people into buying more goodies than they need. Alarming, indeed.

Further on they share how the garment industry churns out new products – often made with environmentally hazardous plastics – at such a rate

that it could clothe the planet's population many times over. Also, how tech products are purposely designed to be unfixable by consumers, so, for instance when the battery in your laptop dies for good, you just pitch the whole lot and buy a new one.

We also meet people who are experts in the after-effects of this consumerism. They use social media to show how companies destroy or throw away perfectly good overstocked products. One of them talks about how he has received cease-and-desist letters from companies because he posted videos on how to repair their products on his online repair-guide company web site. They also point out "lying labels" on products with packaging that proclaim to be recyclable, but inevitably end up in landfills anyway. There is also a "waste investigator" who puts tracking devices in discarded monitors and learned that "recycling centres" shipped electronics to Thailand, where they were destroyed by hand, exposing workers and the environment to toxic substances.

Throughout the film there is something that calls itself Sasha, an AI thing that frequently appears on screen. Sasha speaks as a quasi-representative of corporate thinking, outlining an ironic how-to guide for dominant capitalist consumerism, including steps such as "waste more," "lie more" and "hide more." Sasha is a logo, symbolized as a circle of animated eyeballs, and you will want to punch it in the face, if it had a face. I think that's intentional. There are a lot of things mentioned in this documentary, and some of them don't get quite the detailed scrutiny they deserve.

Buy Now! sheds light on the manipulative tactics behind modern consumerism. While its flashy, infotainment style may be off-putting, the documentary effectively highlights the environmental and ethical consequences of planned obsolescence. It is a thought-provoking call to reconsider our consumption habits and the true cost of convenience.

You will now hear the recording again.

**(After the second reading, say the following:)**

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

**(After one minute, say the following:)**

This is the end of the second listening task.

This completes the listening part of the test.

You may now continue with the other parts of the test.