

DRŽAVNO NATJECANJE U ZNANJU ENGLESKOG JEZIKA
za 4. razrede srednjih škola

SLUŠANJE S RAZUMIJEVANJEM

Good morning. May I have your attention, please? This is the listening part of the State Competition.

There are two tasks in the listening part. You will hear each recording twice and you will have time to read through the questions in each task before the recording starts.

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.

After the second listening, you will have 1 minute to check your answers and copy your FINAL answers on 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.

You will hear 6 people talk about cooking. For questions 1 – 5, choose which speaker A – F best fits the question. There is an example (0) at the beginning and there is one extra speaker.

You will hear each recording twice and there will be a short pause between the two listenings. After hearing the recording for the second time, you will have one minute to check your answers and copy them on the separate Answer Sheet.

You now have 30 seconds to read the questions.
(30 seconds)

You will now hear the speakers.

Speaker A – Annabelle

I grew up in a family where food was at the heart of everything. My grandmother, a retired chef who worked all over the world, taught me to cook when I was just seven. At first, it was simple things like scrambled eggs, but as I got older, I learned more complex dishes although I still do not enjoy spending a lot of time in the kitchen. It took me years to feel confident, but there's something incredibly satisfying about kneading the dough and creating something from scratch.

Speaker B – Billy

Cooking wasn't something I thought much about until I moved out for university. Suddenly, I had to fend for myself, and ordering takeout or eating on campus every day wasn't sustainable. I started watching online tutorials, and within six months, I became pretty decent. My favorite dish to prepare is stir-fry because it's quick, versatile, and packed with flavor. I love experimenting with different sauces and spices to keep things interesting although you need to be quite precise when it comes to some spices.

Speaker C – Connie

I never really enjoyed cooking until I traveled to Thailand. The street food scene there completely changed my perspective. When I returned home, I took a few cooking classes, and after about a year, I could confidently prepare Thai dishes. I particularly love making green curry from scratch—the balance of sweet, spicy, and creamy flavors is just perfect. Now when I have retired, cooking feels like a way to relive my travels.

Speaker D – Diego

Growing up in a household where both my parents worked long hours, I had to prepare meals for myself and my younger siblings. It took a few years before I got really good at it, but now it's second nature. I only wish I was younger, then I would have been able to benefit from the numerous cooking shows and online recipes. I prefer making hearty, comforting meals like stews and roasts. There's nothing better than a slow-cooked meal filling the house with its aroma.

Speaker E – Erin

My neighbor is a Frenchwoman who moved to Portugal to become a pastry chef, and she introduced me to baking when I was a child. Cooking has always been a passion of mine. It took years of practice, but now I specialize in desserts—cakes, tarts, pastries, you name it. I find baking incredibly therapeutic; the meticulousness it requires is almost meditative. My absolute favorite thing to bake is a classic French mille-feuille—it's tricky, but so rewarding.

Speaker F – Frank

I started cooking relatively late in life—after I stopped working. I finally had the time to take cooking seriously, so I enrolled in a gourmet cooking course. It took me about two years to feel truly skilled. I enjoy making fine dining dishes, particularly seafood as I have a lot of time on my hands so I can even tackle complicated dishes. My favorite dish to prepare is seared scallops with a citrus butter sauce. Cooking has become a new and fulfilling hobby for me.

(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 on the Answer Sheet.

(After 1 minute, say the following:)

This is the end of the first listening task. Now please turn your attention to the next page.

Task 2

You will hear the text *From the Streets to Global Fame*. For questions 1 – 5, choose the correct answer. Write A, B, C or D. There is an example (0) at the beginning.

You will hear the recording twice and there will be a short pause between the two listenings. After hearing the recording for the second time, you will have one minute to check your answers and copy them on the separate Answer Sheet.

You now have 45 seconds to read through the questions in Task 2.

(45 seconds)

You will now hear the recording.

From the Streets to Global Fame

Few bands in recent history have seen their trajectory skyrocket as dramatically as Måneskin. The Italian rock group, formed in 2016, started humbly—busking on the streets of Rome. It was in these early days that they honed their craft, playing for passersby in Via del Corso, a bustling shopping street. Unlike many aspiring musicians who struggle to captivate indifferent audiences, Måneskin quickly gained a following. Their energetic performances, raw charisma, and distinctive blend of rock and funk set them apart.

However, it wasn't just their street performances that defined them. In 2017, they made a bold decision to audition for X Factor Italia. The show catapulted them into the public eye, even though they didn't win. Despite finishing as runners-up, they left an indelible mark on the Italian music scene. Instead of fading into obscurity, Måneskin seized the momentum, releasing original music that resonated with a growing fanbase.

Their breakthrough moment came in 2021 when they won the prestigious Sanremo Music Festival with their song Zitti e Buoni. This victory granted them the opportunity to represent Italy at the Eurovision Song Contest, a competition that has historically been a launchpad for many European artists. Their performance at Eurovision was nothing short of electrifying. Unlike many of their contemporaries who opted for polished pop numbers, Måneskin delivered a high-voltage rock anthem that felt both nostalgic and refreshingly modern. Their unapologetic style, combined with an effortlessly rebellious attitude, won over audiences and juries alike, securing Italy's first Eurovision victory since 1990.

With their newfound fame, the band faced the challenge of proving they were more than just a Eurovision sensation. Many past winners had faded into relative obscurity, but Måneskin defied the odds. They embarked on international tours, performed on renowned

American talk shows, and even opened for legendary bands like The Rolling Stones. Suddenly, they weren't just Italy's pride—they were global rock icons.

Yet, fame comes with its share of criticism. Some skeptics dismissed them as a manufactured act, arguing that their rise had been too fast to be genuine. Others accused them of merely reviving old rock tropes rather than pioneering something new. However, Måneskin remained undeterred. They continued experimenting with their sound, proving that their success was not a fleeting moment but the result of years of dedication. Despite their rapid ascent, they have never forgotten their roots. Even with sold-out arenas and millions of fans worldwide, they occasionally reference their early days from the streets of Rome. It serves as a reminder that great talent, when combined with persistence and the right opportunities, can lead to extraordinary success.

(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 on the Answer Sheet.

(After 1 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.