

**ŽUPANIJSKO NATJECANJE U ZNANJU ENGLESKOGA
JEZIKA
za 4. razred srednjih škola**

SLUŠANJE S RAZUMIJEVANJEM

This is the listening part of the County Competition.

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

While you are listening, write your answers on the task paper 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 onto the separate Answer Sheet. You must do this carefully and clearly, and you must not make any changes to your final answers once they are written.

Open your tests at page 1.

Task one.

You will hear six short conversations. For each question, 1-6, choose **ONE** answer (A, B, C or D) that fits best according to the texts. You will hear the recording twice. The task begins with an example (0).

You now have 60 seconds to read the questions.

...

You will now hear the speakers.

1

I've logged dozens of hours in the rehearsal room, so it's not really a lack of preparation. It's just that every time I hit the upper register, the reed feels unresponsive—it's producing this shrill, piercing tone that's driving me mad. I'm terrified my family in the audience will think I'm hit-or-miss, even though I know the stopping like the back of my hand.

2

People assume my vocal prowess is a direct legacy from my mother, but honestly, I'm happy it isn't. My father, however, curated a diverse sonic environment from the moment I was born. Growing up immersed in avant-garde jazz and soul wasn't just a hobby; it fundamentally wired my brain for melody long before I ever took lessons.

3

I'll admit, the prose is a bit dry and uninteresting, and I rarely find a spare hour to actually flip through the pages. But honestly, if we want to have any standing in a debate, we can't exactly afford to be oblivious to global affairs. You're right—staying informed is non-negotiable these days, even if the medium itself feels a bit like a chore.

4

While the solitude of the harvest is rewarding, I'm here to discuss the upcoming regional gala. We've coordinated with local artisans to showcase the heritage of this valley. My aim today is to ensure the community understands the significance of attending next Saturday; it's a vital platform for our local economy that simply cannot be missed.

5

The summit view was quite breath-taking, but my memories are dominated by the searing ache in my calves and the relentless wind-chill. Mum kept insisting that I should have paced myself better earlier on; she was right. By the time we reached the peak, the sheer exhaustion eclipsed any sense of aesthetic appreciation.

6

Your enthusiasm during the initial phase was exemplary, which is commendable. Lately, I have noticed a dip in momentum. It would be a shame to let such a meaningful initiative stall now. I'm here to reignite that spark and remind you that the long-term ecological impact of our work depends entirely on your continued dedication in the future.

You will now hear the recording again.

...

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

...

This is the end of the first listening task.

Task two

You will hear 6 people talking about traveling. For questions 1 – 6, choose which speaker A – F best fits the question. Not all the speakers may be mentioned or they may be mentioned more than once. You will hear the recording twice. The task begins with an example (0).

You now have 45 seconds to read the questions.

...

You will now hear the speakers.

A: Amalia

I've always been repelled by the 'beaten track.' Last year, I navigated the Mongolian steppe, staying with nomadic families. The sheer isolation was transformative, though the logistical hurdles were immense. Interestingly, I found myself participating in a local horse-racing festival, which was a far cry from my sedentary office life. People back home assume I was constantly in danger, but the hospitality I encountered was unparalleled.

B: Barry

My trip to Japan was meant to be a fortnight of popular temple-hopping, but a clerical error with my visa caused an unexpected month-long extension in a rural village with no Wi-Fi or network reception. Rather than panic, I leaned into the absurdity of the situation. I ended up assisting a local potter, which provided an intimate glimpse into a traditional craft I'd previously only viewed behind museum glass. This detour actually proved more enlightening than my original itinerary ever could have been.

C: Catherine

For me, travel is synonymous with gastronomy. In Peru, I bypassed the typical Machu Picchu trek to spend time in the Amazonian markets. I'm not talking about fine dining; I'm talking about ingredients that looked like they belonged on another planet. I did have a rather harrowing experience with a specific fruit that caused a mild allergic reaction, but even that didn't dampen my spirits. I suppose I'm more interested in what people eat than what they've built.

D: Diane

Berlin was a revelation, though not for the reasons I anticipated. I went for the history, yet I was captivated by the repurposed industrial spaces, and surprisingly, the food. I spent most of my time in an old power station turned into art, collective eating dodgy dishes. I

also lost my wallet on the U-Bahn, which was a nightmare, but the kindness of a stranger who tracked me down on social media to return it restored my faith in humanity.

E: Elizabeth

Trekking in Nepal is often romanticised, but the reality is gritty. I remember reaching a summit at dawn, and while the view was theoretically sublime, I was too preoccupied with the onset of altitude sickness to truly soak it in. My father had warned me about the physical toll, and for once, his pragmatism was justified. I spent the rest of the trip in a low-altitude village, teaching English to children. It wasn't the 'conquering the mountain' narrative I'd planned, but it felt significantly more grounded and purposeful.

F: Francesca

I've been working remotely from Portugal for six months. The 'van life' trend is portrayed as effortless on social media, but the reality involves a lot of hunting for stable Wi-Fi in coastal parking lots. One night, I accidentally parked on what turned out to be a private vineyard. Instead of being chased off, I was taken aback when the owner invited me in for a tasting and offered me a job, which I gladly accepted and stayed there a few more months, and I learned a lot about traditional wine making.

...

You will now hear the recording again.

...

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

...

This is the end of the second listening task. This completes the listening part of the test. You may now continue with the rest of the test.