

ŽUPANIJSKO NATJECANJE IZ ENGLESKOGA JEZIKA
za 4. razred srednjih škola

SLUŠANJE S RAZUMIJEVANJEM

Good morning. May I have your attention, please? The listening part of the test will start now.

[Note for the teacher: DO NOT stop or pause the recording until you hear the sentence: *This is the end of the listening task. You may now go on to do the other parts of the test.*]

Open your tests to page 2. As you can see, the listening task and questions are on this page.

You will hear a news report on illegal dumping.

You will hear the report twice, and there will be a short pause between the two readings.

You can write your answers during both the first and second readings.

For questions 1- 10, complete the sentences using no more than one word or a number for each gap. You will hear the exact words that you need to use. The answers will occur in the same order as the questions.

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 reading, you will have 2 minutes to check your answers and transfer your final answers to the separate Answer Sheet.

Now, let's begin. You have 30 seconds to read through the questions.
[Count silently to 30.]

Now you will hear the passage.
[Read the passage at natural speed.]

[A pause of 10 seconds between the two recordings/readings]

Now you will hear the passage for the second time.
[Read the passage at natural speed.]

[Count silently to 120 – and then say the following:] **This is the end of the listening task. You may now go on to do the other parts of the test.**

Illegal Dumping

As a society we seem to be producing more rubbish than ever. In an effort to tackle the problem, the new government has provided the Environment Agency with the task of promoting recycling. However, its work is being undermined by a significant rise in the dumping of rubbish in unauthorised places, a phenomenon known as fly tipping. Formerly a problem of the nation's towns, a recent report has revealed that two fifths of farms have been hit by illegal dumping, which is really quite an alarming statistic for a country that is so dependent on tourism. The same report goes on to say that there has been a rise of sixty per cent in the thirty districts covered by the report compared to the previous year.

But why is it that people can't be bothered to take their waste to a landfill. You wouldn't believe it if you were told that it all boils down to laziness. Looked at objectively, it does not require much effort to drive down to the landfill and legally dispose of your junk. Surely then it must be the cost. However, the evidence of successful prosecutions against wealthy individuals and successful firms suggests otherwise. After all, the landfill tax is a nominal fee.

So where is it all coming from? It's not so much the average household or consumer that's the biggest culprit as their commercial counterparts according to the most recent statistics to be released. Not that this represents any kind of consolation. On the contrary, they really should know better.

The position of the law on this matter is a rather curious one. Basically, any obligation to clear up rests with the landowner, which in the case of public property means the council or government, although you would be forgiven for thinking it would be the dumper or tipper themselves.

It's an expensive business, as demonstrated by a recent clean-up operation in the south of the country which amounted to a surprising seven hundred and sixteen euros, four hundred and seventy of which went on removing and recycling rubber tyres.

However, the authorities have finally started to fight back. Closed-circuit cameras are increasingly being used and have had some significant success. There are also plans for floodlights to be introduced in notorious areas. Evidence from abroad suggests that such lights might serve as an effective deterrent against illegal tipping, although research is inconclusive.

The fight against dumping is not just about deterrence though. The battle is also being waged in the courts, and there have been a number of successful prosecutions to date with fines of up to 50,000 pounds being imposed and one industrial waste dumper being imprisoned for five years, although the offender only served two.

The public has an important role to play by reporting instances of illegal dumping. However, no attempt should be made by the public to clear the waste themselves. This is primarily due to the risk, as waste can contain dangerous materials, but also the fact that it may contain important evidence of who the dumper is.

It has been possible to report dumping on the Agency's internet website for several years now, and there is now a texting service to complement the long established means of phoning a hotline. So far, the Agency has been encouraged by the public's response. Let's hope that next year will see a fall in figures.