

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

You will hear a report about a Viking burial.

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 to 5, you must complete the sentences using no more than one word for each gap. You will hear the exact words that you need to use. You do not need to change them. The answers will occur in the same order as the questions.

While you are listening, write your answers on the task itself. You can cross out your answers, change them, make notes or underline words if you wish.

**After the second reading, you will have 1 minute to check your answers.
During this time, you should write your final answers on the Answer Sheet.**

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

Now you will hear the report.

A spectacular discovery has been made by archaeologists on a Scottish island in the form of a millennium-old Viking burial. Archaeologists were stunned with what they found, as this is no ordinary burial but a boat complete with grave goods. This indicates that the deceased must have been a very important person indeed. Initially, researchers had even dared to hope he might have been a prince or perhaps some kind of priest before more careful analysis revealed him to have been a warrior. The proof for this took the shape of the weapons with which he had been buried. Although no spears were found, a whole axe and fragments of a sword were unearthed. The boat itself is no longer preserved but its outline can be clearly made out in the sand in the form of nails and bits of timber. It is hoped that scientists will be able to make a reconstruction on the basis of the remains.

The Vikings were a warlike seafaring people from Scandinavia who started to attack Britain at the start of the ninth century, striking fear into the hearts of the communities that they raided before eventually settling in the east of the country, although they were overthrown at the end of the tenth century. At the height of their power, they had settlements

from Greenland in the west to Russia in the east. There is also speculation that they established a short-lived colony in Newfoundland.

But what do we know about the man in the boat? For a start, his grave goods suggest that he was a great traveller, as objects, such as pots, from all over Scandinavia and the British Isles have been recovered. It was common for the Vikings to bury objects like tools with the dead, as they believed they would need them in the afterlife. It is known that they even sacrificed slaves as a result of this belief.

A curious aspect of the discovery is that the boat was filled at either extremity with heavy objects, which turned out to be ordinary stones. These have been found in similar burials elsewhere on the European mainland and it would seem that they served a symbolic function such as representing the deceased's connection with the earth.

The find is unique in the British Isles. Although better preserved funeral boats have been uncovered, such as the legendary Sutton Hoo burial, they were Anglo-Saxon. What we have here is a Norse burial in Britain, which provides us with valuable insights into the Vikings in the British Isles. Other Norse sites have been excavated but this discovery is intact, which is unusual, as such graves are usually disturbed and their contents damaged or stolen over the course of the centuries. As a result, archaeologists are restricted in terms of the finds they are able to investigate. The integrity of the current site has been preserved by the remoteness of the find and also by keeping it secret. The importance of the find was such that the team in charge of the dig dared not run the risk of its whereabouts becoming known.

Teams of researchers will continue to document the grave goods in the months and years that follow. Subsequent studies will focus on whether the site itself had any special significance, and upon the man's origins, as the cause of death is hardly a mystery, given the damage to the skull. It all promises to be very exciting and it is hoped that these amazing finds will soon be able to be exhibited to the general public.

[Count silently to 5 and then say the following:]

Now you will hear the report again.

[After the second reading, say the following:]

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

[Count silently to 60 – 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.