ĐỀ THI CHỌN HỌC SINH GIỎI LỚP 9

MÔN: TIẾNG ANH

Năm học 2022-2023

(Thời gian làm bài 150 phút, không kể thời gian giao đề)

Đề thi gồm 4 phần, trong 12 trang

SECTION A: LISTENING (5.0 pts)

Hướng dẫn thí sinh:

- Phần thi nghe gồm 3 bài. Thí sinh được nghe mỗi bài 2 lần liên tiếp.
- Thí sinh đọc kĩ yêu cầu của từng bài trước khi nghe.
- Hướng dẫn chi tiết bằng Tiếng Anh đã có trong đĩa nghe. Bắt đầu và kết thúc bài nghe có tín hiệu nhạc.

Part 1: (MCQs: Different talks) - You will hear people talking in eight different situations. For questions 1-8, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

1. You hear a restaurant manager talking about the cooks who work for him.

What does he say about them?

- A. They dislike cleaning tasks.
- B. They have a choice of jobs.
- C. They help to decide the menu.
- 2. You hear a woman talking about a new book.

What does she particularly like about the book?

- A. It is educational.
- B. It is well organized.
- C. It is enjoyable.
- 3. You hear the writer of a television soap opera being interviewed about the programme.

What will happen next in the story?

- A. Someone will make an important decision.
- B. Someone will go away unexpectedly.

4. You l	near part of	a radio inte	erview.				
Who	is speaking?)					
A.	a taxi drive	r	B. a por	ter	C. a touris	st guide	
5. You l	near a woma	ın talking a	bout how sh	e keeps f	it.		
Why	did she deci	de to take	up line danci	ng?			
A.	She though	t the pace v	would suit he	er.			
B.	She had hea	ard about it	on televisio	n.			
C.	She wanted	to try exer	reising to mu	isic.			
6. You o	overhear a co	onversation	n in a restaur	ant.			
What	does the wo	oman think	about the fo	od she ha	as just eaten?		
A.	It was expe	nsive.					
B.	It was delic	ious.					
C.	It looked w	onderful.					
7. You t	turn on the r	adio and he	ear a man tal	king.			
What	is he talking	g about?					
A.	drawing pic	etures					
B.	writing ficti	ion					
C.	composing	music					
8. You o	overhear a st	tudent phoi	ning her pare	ents.			
What	is her opini	on of the p	lace she is li	ving in w	hile at college	e?	
A.	She is not s	ure she wil	ll have enoug	gh room t	o study.		
B.	She has diff	ficulty in w	orking beca	use of the	e noise.		
C.	She does no	ot get on w	ell with her i	oom-mat	es.		
Your an	iswers:						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	_ 8

Section 2: (Gap fill) - You will hear an interview with Elizabeth Holmes about her experience working in Africa. For questions 9-18, complete the sentences.

Volunteering in Africa

				Africa. Elizabeth first
			tended was called	she saw at the
				how
to market their g		,	() <u> </u>	
On arrival in Afi	rica, Elizabeth	spent (13)	doi	ng a training course
with other volun	teers. Elizabetl	n used a (14)		to travel short distances
in Africa. Elizab	eth feels that s	he got on best wi	th (15)	in the area of
		=	eth found that she	e was disturbed by the
(16)	in the	city.		
Nowadays, Eliza	beth spends m	ore time on her f	avourite pastime,	which is (18)
	·			
Your answers:				
9	10.	11.	12.	13.
		_	_	_
14.	15.	16.	17.	18.
		_	_	
			I	I
S 1 2 - (NAC)	D	M 1	911 1	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
•		• /	will near an into	erview with Trina
		-		(ri, b or c).
		A, she		
A. thought	the records she	e made would be	unsuccessful.	
B. knew he	er friends would	d be jealous of he	er.	
C. didn't te	ll many people	why she was go	ing.	
20. When Trina	was in the USA	A, she wrote song	s about	_ -
A. her hom	ie.			
B. the weat	ther.			

C. people she met.

21. Where w	as Trina performi	ng when she was n	oticed by the recor	d company?
A. in L	ondon			
B. near	her home			
C. in th	e USA			
22. Why did	Trina sing with D	avid Pearson?		
A. He r	needed some help.			
B. She	wrote a song for h	nim.		
C. The	record company a	sked her to.		
23. Trina wa	s asked to return t	o the USA to	·	
A. re-d	o some work.			
B. appe	ear on TV again.			
C. reco	rd a new song.			
24. Why isn'	t Trina popular in	Britain?		
A. Her	kind of music isn'	t popular in Britair	1.	
B. The	company don't wa	ant to sell her recor	ds in Britain.	
C. Her	records haven't be	en available in Bri	tain.	
25. How doe	s Trina see her fut	ture?		
A. She	will continue mak	ting records in the	USA.	
B. She	may make singing	g her career eventu	ally.	
C. She	wants to study mu	sic at college.		
Your answei	rs:			
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.

Part I. Choose the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer questions. Write your answers in the box provided. (1.0 pt)

1. *Mark*: "Do you find it very interesting to travel alone?" – *Nick*: "_____."

A. Yes, you're of C. No, not at all 2. My boss is angry	1	B . Never n D . It's exc do all the work that	iting	veek.
A. should do might have done	B. should have do	one C	. must have done	D.
3. He spent the enti	ire night thinking a	nd in the end	a brilliant ide	ea.
A. came up to through to	B. put up with	C. came	up with	D. put
4 at his	s lessons, he couldr	n't catch up with hi	s classmates.	
A. Hardly as he wo	orked	B. Hard as he	worked	
C. Hard as he does	3	D. Hard as he	was through to	
5.She was pleased	that things were go	ing on		
A. satisfied satisfaction	B. satisfacto	orily C. sa	tisfying	D.
6. When he came, I A. cooked cooking	in the kitc B. am cooki		s cooked	D. was
7. The juryh	er compliments on	her excellent know	ledge of the subjec	t.
A. paid 8.The editor wanted	· ·	C. m		D. said
A. you get				
9. She had butterfli			•	C
A. face		C. palms		D. stomach
10.Jane likes watch A. specially Your answers:		cs not k		ticularly
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
U •	· •	U.	7.	10.

Part II. Use the correct form of the words in brackets. Write your answers in the box provided. (1.0 pt)

EDUCATION IN THE FUTURE

Education is another area of social life in which information technology is changing the way we communicate. Today's college students may not						
	over the age of 10(4. COMPEL)	•	(3. ATTEND)	at schools is		
support or instructional online from home. study hours per year times that suit their join live classes in is learning adequate monitor the number learning materials and AVAILABILITY) IDENTITY) the begenerate similar according to the support of t	solder children atterdon from a teacher. Students must compar; however, they may family schedule. To other countries. In tely, computer softwar of hours a week eand assessment action for parents and teachest learning activities attivities. It can also reduce special programmer.	For the most part, puplete a	bupils are encourage (5. MINIMIZ thours by studying a rly or late in the day (6. SURE) that (7. AU s on-line as well as the e can then e can then core each individual steel	ed to work E) number of t home at and even each student TOMATIC) that students'(8(9. tudent and		
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.		
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.		
SECTION C: READING (5.0 pts)						

Part I. Read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each space. Put a circle on the letter indicating the correct answer. Write your answers in the boxes provided. (1,0 pt).

	People have always	dreamt of living forever.	Although we all know this will
(1)	happen, we still wan	nt to live as long as possil	ble. (2), there are advantages and
disadv	rantages of a long life	e. In the first place, people	e who live longer can spend more
time w	with their family and	friends. Secondly, (3)	have busy working lives look
forwar	rd to a long, (4)	life, when they can do the	e things they've never had time for.

consequently have the friends. Many of the	to spend time in hosp em find this (7) a friends they seem to l	ital or become burde annoying or embarras	many people become ill and in (6) the children and ssing. In addition to this, ands die or become ill and its
To sum up, l remain independent		ge is worthwhile for t	hose who stay (10) to
Question 1.			
A. hardly	B. not	C. never	D. all are correct
Question 2.			
A. Naturally	B. Really		
C. Consequently	D. Surprising	gly	
Question 3.			
A. people	B. people who	C. they	D. everyone who
Question 4.			
A. relax	B. relaxing	C. relaxed	D. relaxation
Question 5.			
A. In other words	B. For example	C. On the other han	d D. Contrary to
Question 6.			
A. of	B. on	C. to	D. with
Question 7.			
A. dependence	B. behavior	C. habit	D. condition
Question 8.			
A. when people	get older	B. when the	older people get
C. the older peop	ple get	D. the old pe	eople get
Question 9.			
A. strange	B. interesting	g C. difficult	D. convenient
Question 10.			
A. healthy enough	B. enough health	C. also healthy	D. even health

Your answers:

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.

Part II. Read the passage and answer the questions. Write your answers in the boxes provided. (2,0 pts)

We find that bright children are rarely **held back** by mixed-ability teaching. On the contrary, both their knowledge and experience are enriched. We feel that there are many disadvantages in streaming pupils. It does not take into account the fact that children develop at different rates. It can have a bad effect on both the bright and the not-so-bright child. After all, it can be quite discouraging to be at the bottom of the top grade!

Besides, it is rather unreal to grade people just according to their intellectual ability. This is only one aspect of their total personality. We are concerned to develop the abilities of all our pupils to the full, not just their academic ability. We also value personal qualities and social skills, and we find that **mixed-ability teaching** contributes to all these aspects of learning.

In our classrooms, we work in various ways. The pupils often work in groups: this gives them the opportunity to learn to co-operate, to share, and to develop leadership skills. They also learn how to cope with personal problems as well as learning how to think, to make decisions, to analyze and evaluate, and to communicate effectively. The pupils learn from each other as well as from the teachers.

Sometimes the pupils work in pairs; sometimes they work on individual tasks and assignments, and they can do this at their own speed. They also have some formal class teaching when this is appropriate. We encourage our pupils to use the library, and we teach them the skills they need in order to do this effectively. An advanced pupil can do advanced work; it does not matter what age the child is. We expect our pupils to do their best, not their least, and we give them every encouragement to attain this goal.

3			
1. The words "held	back" in 1st paragraph	means "".	
A. forced to study	in lower classes	B. prevented from	n advancing
C. made to lag beh	ind in study	D. made to remain	n in the same classes
2. In the passage, the a	uthor's attitude towards	"mixed-ability teach	ing" is
A. objective	B. questioning	C. approving	D. critical
3. The author argues the	at a teacher's chief conce	ern should be the deve	lopment of the pupils'
·			

C. personal and social skills D. total personality **4.** Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the passage? A. Group work provides the pupils with the opportunity to learn to be capable organizers. B. Pupils also learn to develop their reasoning ability. C. Group work gives pupils the opportunity to learn to work together with others. D. Pupils also learn how to participate in teaching activities. **5.** The author's purpose of writing this passage is to A. recommend pair work and group work classroom activities B. argue for teaching bright and not-so-bright pupils in the same class C. offer advice on the proper use of the school library D. emphasize the importance of appropriate formal classroom teaching **6.** According to the passage, which of the following is NOT TRUE? A. Pupils cannot develop in the best way if they are streamed into classes of different intellectual abilities. B. There is no fixed method in teaching pupils to develop themselves to the full. C. It's not good for a bright child to find out that he performs worst in a mixed-ability class. D. Development of pupils as individuals is not the aim of group work. 7. According to the passage, which of the following is an advantage of mixed-ability teaching? A. Formal class teaching is the important way to give the pupils essential skills such as those to be used in the library. B. A pupil can be at the bottom of a class. C. Pupils can be hindered from an all-round development. D. Pupils as individuals always have the opportunities to work on their own.

8. Which of the following statements can best summaries the main idea of the passage?

A. Children, in general, develop at different rates.

B. Bright children do benefit from mixed-class teaching.

A. learning ability and communicative skills B. intellectual abilities

- C. Various ways of teaching should be encouraged in class.
- D. The aim of education is to find out how to teach the bright and not-so-bright pupils.
- **9.** According to the passage, "**streaming pupils**" _____.
 - A. is quite discouraging
 - B. aims at enriching both their knowledge and experience
 - C. is the act of putting pupils into classes according to their academic abilities
 - D. will help the pupils learn best
- **10.** According to the author, mixed-ability teaching is more preferable because .
 - A. it doesn't have disadvantages as in streaming pupils
 - B. it aims at developing the children's total personality
 - C. children can learn to work with each other to solve personal problems
 - D. formal class teaching is appropriate

Part III. Read the following text and do the tasks that follow. (2.0 pts)

Questions 1 - 6: The first six paragraphs of <u>reading passage</u> are lettered A-F. Choose the most suitable headings for paragraphs A-F from the list of headings below.

(There are more headings than paragraphs, so you will not use them all.)

THE WATER CRISIS

Greater efficiency in water use is needed to meet the growing demands of a changing world

A.

Per capita water usage has been on an upward trend for many years. As countries industrialise and their citizens become more prosperous, their individual water usage increases rapidly. Annual per capita water withdrawals in the USA, for example, are about 1,700 cubic metres, four times the level in China and fifty times the level in Ethiopia. In the 21st century, the world's limited supply of renewable fresh water is having to meet demands of both larger total population and increased per capita consumption. The only practicable ways to resolve this problem in the longer term are economic pricing in conjunction with conservation measures.

В.

Agriculture consumes about 70% of the world's fresh water, so improvements in irrigation can make the greatest impact. At present, average efficiency in the use of irrigated water in agriculture may be as low as 50%. Simple changes could improve the rate substantially, though it is unrealistic to expect very high levels of water-use efficiency in many developing countries, faced as they are with a chronic lack of capital and a largely untrained rural workforce. After agriculture, industry is the second biggest user of water and, in terms of value added per liter used, is sixty times more productive than agriculture. However, some industrial processes use vast amounts of water. For example, production of 1kg of aluminum might require 1,500 liters of water. Paper production too

is often very water-intensive. Though new processes have greatly reduced consumption, there is still plenty of room for big savings in industrial uses of water.

C.

In rich countries, water consumption has gradually been slowed down by price increases and the use of modern technology and recycling. In the USA, industrial production has risen fourfold since 1950, while water consumption has fallen by more than a third. Japan and Germany have similarly improved their use of water in manufacturing processes. Japanese industry, for example, now recycles more than 75% of process water. However, industrial water consumption is continuing to increase sharply in developing countries. With domestic and agricultural demands also increasing, the capacity of water supply systems is under growing strain.

D.

Many experts believe that the best way to counter this trend is to impose water charges based on the real cost of supplies. This would provide a powerful incentive for consumers to introduce water-saving processes and recycling. Few governments charge realistic prices for water, especially to farmers. Even in rich California, farmers get water for less than a tenth of the cost of supply. In many developing countries there is virtually no charge for irrigation water, while energy prices are heavily subsidized too (which means that farmers can afford to run water pumps day and night). Water, which was once regarded as a free gift from heaven, is becoming a commodity which must be bought and sold on the open market just like oil. In the oil industry, the price increases which hit the market in the 1970s, coupled with concerns that supplies were running low, led to new energy conservation measures all over the world. It was realized that investing in new sources was a far more costly option than improving efficiency of use. A similar emphasis on conservation will be the best and cheapest option for bridging the gap between water supply and demand.

Ε.

One way to cut back on water consumption is simply to prevent leaks. It is estimated that in some of the biggest cities of the Third World, more than half of the water entering the system is lost through leaks in pipes, dripping taps and broken installations. Even in the UK, losses were estimated at 25% in the early 1990s because of the failure to maintain the antiquated water supply infrastructure. In addition, huge quantities of water are consumed because used water from sewage pipes, storm drains and factories is merely flushed away and discharged into rivers or the sea. The modern approach, however, is to see used water as a resource which can be put to good use - either in irrigation or, after careful treatment, as recycled domestic water. Israel, for instance, has spent heavily on used water treatment. Soon, treated, recycled water will account for most farm irrigation there. There are other examples in cities such as St Petersburg, Florida, where all municipal water is recycled back into domestic systems.

F.

Another way of conserving water resources involves better management of the environment generally. Interference with the ecosystem can have a severe effect on both local rainfall patterns and water run-off. Forest clearings associated with India's Kabini dam project reduced local rainfall by 25%, a phenomenon observed in various other parts of the world where large-scale deforestation has taken place. Grass and other vegetation acts as a sponge which absorbs rainfall both in the plants and in the ground. Removal of the vegetation means that rainfall runs off the top of the land, accelerating erosion instead of being gradually fed into the soil to renew ground water.

G.

Global warming is bound to affect rainfall patterns, though there is considerable disagreement about its precise effects. But it is likely that, as sea levels rise, countries in low-lying coastal areas will be hit by seawater penetration of ground water. Other countries will experience changes in rainfall which could have a major impact on agricultural yield either for better or for worse. In broad terms, it is thought that rainfall zones will shift northwards, adding to the water deficit in Africa, the Middle East and the Mediterranean - a grim prospect indeed.

Paragraphs	Lists of Headings
1.Paragraph A	i. American water withdrawal
2.Paragraph B	ii .Economic pricing
3.Paragraph C	iii .What the future holds
4.Paragraph D	iv .Successful measures taken by some
5.Paragraph E	v .The role of research

6.Paragraph F	vi .The thirsty sectors
	vii .Ways of reducing waste
	viii .Interdependence of natural resources
	ix. The demands of development
	x .The consequences for agriculture

Questions 7-10: Complete each of the following statements with words taken from the passage. Write ONE or TWO WORDS for each answer.

Individual wat	er usage is rising dra	matically as people	e living in industrial	ized countries
become increasii	ngly (7)	As well as i	ncreased consumpti	on per capita,
the growing dem	and for fresh water	is due to a bigger g	global population the	an in the past.
The only way to oppromoting conservations could industries in some increases, the approximation domestic sectors	control this increase ervation measures. dramatically increase the rich countries that plication of (8), the price of water it to pay a realistic pri	in demand is to char Improvements in it the efficiency of the three reduced their and the still subsidized so	ge high prices for water use. There are consumption rates recycling. But in ag	ater while also and industrial e examples of through price gricultural and
systems and to fin 9) replenishment or supplies are unc	otecting supplies are nd ways of utilizing management f ground water for certain, especially wand to worsen the	used water. Longer to the would protect future generations when global warming	term measures, such the ecosystem and . Without such me ng is expected to	as improved (d ensure the asures, future interfere with
Your answers:				
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.

D: WRITING (5.0 pts)

8.

9.

10.

7.

6.

I. Write an email of about 150 words: (2.0 pts)

You rode in a taxi yesterday. When you got home, you realized you had left your bag in the taxi.

Write a letter of 120-150 words to the manager of the taxi company.

In your letter

- + explain how you lost your bag.
- + describe your bag.
- + ask the manager to help you find it.

You must NOT write your own name and address. Begin and finish your letter as:		
Dear Sir or Madam,		
	• •	
	. •	
Your faithfully,		
Peter		

II. Paragraph writing: (3.0 points)

Facebook has affected many people's life, especially students'. It can have negative effects on their study and physical development.

Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Write a paragraph (*(about 150 -180 words*) to express your opinion.

MÔN: TIẾNG ANH

Năm học 2022-2023

HCD gồm 4 phần, trong 9 trang

- Total mark: 17,0

The mark given is based on the following scheme.

Phần	Đáp án	Điểm
PART A: LISTENING (5pts)	Section 1: (MCQs: Different talks) - You will her in eight different situations. For questions 1-8, answer (A, B or C).	
	1. B	0,2
	2. B	0,2
	3. C	0,2
	4. B	0,2
	5. A	0,2
	6. B	0,2
	7. C	0,2
	8. A	0,2
	Section 2: (Gap fill) - You will hear an interview Holmes about her experience working in Africa 18, complete the sentences.	
	9. travel agent('s) / travel agency	0,2
	10. poster	0,2
	11. Changes	0,2
	12. (local) (African) farmers	0,2
	13. three / 3 weeks	0,2
	14. motorbike / motorcycle	0,2

	15. (the) (local) women	0,2		
	16. traffic (noise)	0,2		
	17. (pieces of) furniture	0,2		
	18. gardening	0,2		
	Section 3: (MCQs: Interview /Monologue) You will hear an interview with Trina Trevose, a pop singer who is only fift. For questions 24.30, change the best enswer (A. P. en C)			
	For questions 24-30, choose the best answer (A, B or			
	19. C	0,2		
	20. C	0,2		
	21. B	0,2		
	22. A	0,2		
	23. A	0,2		
	24. C	0,2		
	25. B	0,2		
	I. Choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) to each q	uestion:		
	(1,0ps 10 questions)			
	1. D	0,1		
	2. B	0,1		
	3. C	0,1		
	4. B	0,1		
PART B:	5. B	0,1		
VOCABULAR V. (24-)	6. D	0,1		
Y (2pts)	7. B	0,1		
	8. C	0,1		
	9. D	0,1		
	10. D	0,1		
	II. Give the correct form(s) of words: (1,0 points: 10 q	uestions)		
	1. simply	0,1		
	2. reality	0,1		

	3. attendance	0,1	
	4. compulsory	0,1	
	5. minimum	0,1	
	6. ensure	0,1	
	7. automatically	0,1	
	8. available	0,1	
	9. identify	0,1	
	10. achievement	0,1	
PART C:	I. MCQs: (1,0 points: 10 questions)		
READING	Part I. Read the text below and decide which a	nswer (A, B, C o	
(5pts)	D) best fits each space. Put a circle on the letter	r indicating the	
	correct answer. Write your answers in the box	es provided.	
	1. C	0,1	
	2. B	0,1	
	3. B	0,1	
	4. B	0,1	
	5. C	0,1	
	6. B	0,1	
	7. A	0,1	
	8. C	0,1	
	9. C	0,1	
	10. A	0,1	
	II. Read the passage and answer the questions. Write your answers in the boxes provided. (2,0 points: 10 questions)		
	1. B	0,2	
	2. C	0,2	
	3. D	0,2	

	5. B	0,2	
	6. D	0,2	
	7. D	0,2	
	8. B	0,2	
	9. C	0,2	
	10. B	0,2	
	III. Headlines matching and fill in the summary: (2,0 point: 10 questions)		
	1. ix	0,2	
	2. vi	0,2	
	3. iv	0,2	
	4. ii	0,2	
	5. vii	0,2	
	6. viii	0,2	
	7. prosperous	0,2	
	8. modern technology/ technology	0,2	
	9. environmental	0,2	
	10. water run-off/deficit	0,2	
PART D:	The main part:	2.0	
WRTTING	- Introduction:		
(5pts)	+ A formal opening		
	+ Reason/goal of the email.		
	- Body:		
	+ Explain how she/he lost the bag.		
	+ Describe the bag. + Ask the manager to help him/her find it.		
	- Conclusion:		

+ Brief summary	
+ Wrapping the email up politely in an appropriate style or tone.	
2. Coherence and cohesion	
3. Grammatical range and accuracy	
4. Lexical resource	
3 spelling or grammar mistakes equal to -0.1 point.	
II. Paragraph writing (3.0 points)	3.0
Bài viết cần rõ nội dung; ngôn ngữ phù hợp, chính xác.	
* Gợi ý phần cho điểm chi tiết như sau:	
1. Form: a paragraph (0.5 point)	
+ Organization: Introduction- body-	
conclusion	
2. Content:(1.25 points)	
+ Supporting sentences/ examples,	
+ should be clear, logical and creative with	
explanations	
3. Language:(1.25 points)	
+ Appropriate vocabulary	
+ Suitable connectors	
+ Correct grammar	
+ Punctuating/ Spelling.	
+ Complex sentences	
4. Minus point:	
- 3 spelling or grammar mistakes equal to -0.1 point	

LISTENING

Section 1:

Transcript:

Question 1:

As restaurant manager, I feel responsible for the quality of the food we serve. So it's up to me to check the ingredients that have been delivered overnight to make sure they are of sufficient quality, and to produce a menu for the day. The cooks arrive at about ten a.m. to prepare lunch and I'll take them through the menu. Because lunch is concentrated over a short period of time it can get very busy and very hot. But unlike some kitchens, we tend to divide the jobs up according to who likes doing what, and that includes cleaning pots and pans and clearing the place before dinner.

Question 2:

It's a factual book, a chronicle of the twentieth century and it's wonderful. I mean it's terribly bitty and it's not going to give you a lot of information nor be good for school work. That's what's really nice about it. Here is a reference book which it is fun to dip in and out of. It's hardly going to help anyone write an essay and it avoids being geared to any school syllabus, unlike so much of what is published today. But for anyone who likes little details, you know, you can look up your date of birth, for example, and see what else happened then, it's a very good book.

Question 3:

Man: So, there've been some dramatic events in Victoria Street this past week, what with Mariela deciding not to marry Jason, and Stephen leaving home in the middle of a family row. Are next week's episodes as exciting?

Woman: Well, I can't give away the whole story, but I don't think you'll be disappointed! I can tell you that Stephen's mother is forced to tell her husband the secret she's been hiding for years, which leads to more fireworks and a few tears. And Jason refuses to accept Mariela's decision, so you're going to hear a lot more from him, and look out for some surprises there.

Question 4:

We get people to the taxis, that's the first priority, and to the trains. We make sure they get on early and get comfortable seats. These days many passengers have a lot of luggage and they want assistance with it. So we provide a muchneeded service. We even take people down to the Underground or to places in the surrounding streets. But the majority of users are airline passengers with a lot of bags and perhaps accompanied by elderly relatives, young children and so on. Obviously they can't manage everything on their own.

Question 5:

I exercise in the form of dance. At one time, I did aerobics because exercise is more interesting with music, but I've since moved on to line dancing. It's less energetic, but I go

three times a week. I run my own business, work hard, and it's just a way to cut off rather than watch television. It's also a challenge keeping up with the new steps. I think young people sometimes take exercise too far, get over-concerned with how they look, when they'll never be able to keep it up at that sort of pace. Whereas line dancing struck me as something I could sustain as part of my normal life.

Question 6:

Man: Well, what did you think of that, then?

Woman: Brilliant! I've never tasted anything like it! I wish now I'd tried this place sooner. I mean, I've been walking past it for years.

Man: Why didn't you?

Woman: Well, to be honest, I never thought I'd be able to afford it, but it's actually quite reasonable. Mind you, I think they could have tried a bit harder with the presentation. I think if food looks good on the plate you automatically expect it to taste good. Yours was okay, but I think they could have made more of an effort with mine.

Question 7:

In practical terms, the place I'm in doesn't matter too much. As long as I have the necessary tools, you know, pencil and paper and, of course, my keyboard. Once I'm started, I go over things again and again - must be very dull if anyone's listening. I change a few notes here and there, but basically I tend to stick with an idea once I have it. I guess home's the best place in a way because there I'm relaxed enough to let my imagination flow and that's what you need to do, in order to produce a good piece ...

Question 8:

Well, I'm sharing with two other girls ... I know, it was supposed to be me and one other person, but there's a shortage of accommodation, apparently. Anyway, the room's rather cramped. But it's great. There've been three parties so far, and it's still the first week. It's an incredibly noisy place, with doors banging and people laughing and shouting till the small hours. Yes, I suppose we'll have to get down to work soon, though I don't know how we'll be able to, packed into that little space - none of us is very tidy ...

Section 2:

Transcript:

Interviewer: Visitors to the small Devon village of Whimple might be forgiven for looking twice as they pass the garden of Elizabeth Holmes. In the middle of the garden there stands a traditional African hut, a reminder of the two years Elizabeth spent in Africa as a

volunteer. Elizabeth, what persuaded you to leave your secure job in a travel agent's and go to Africa?

Elizabeth: Well, I'd been feeling restless for ages. I wanted to see the real world, not just tourist places. Then, I was at the dentist's one day, waiting to go in, and I'd read all the magazines in the waiting room, so I started looking at a poster - it was all about volunteers working in Africa.

Interviewer: And it interested you?

Elizabeth: Yes, I took down the name and address and applied. I had an interview locally and did some aptitude tests. Then just before I left for Africa, there was a training weekend in London, which they call 'Changes' and which gives you some idea of what you're letting yourself in for.

Interviewer: What particular skills could you offer?

Elizabeth: I had a degree in economics and I had done some teaching at one time. What they wanted to send me to Africa to do was to train local farmers in the marketing of their produce. I flew out with fifteen other volunteers, all going to do different things, like nursing, teaching, and so on. When we got there, we were supposed to have a four-week course at a training centre learning something about the local culture and the basics of the language - you know, greetings and things like that. Anyway, there was a problem and it only lasted three weeks in the end - not enough really.

Interviewer: Did it take a long time to get used to your new lifestyle?

Elizabeth: I found it quite difficult for the first few weeks, but after that I settled in very well. My area covered 1200 square kilometres, and I had a truck for long distance travel, but for more local trips I rode a motorbike.

Interviewer: How did you get on with the local people?

Elizabeth: Very well. The men were very polite but they tended to keep their distance - unlike the women, who were always inviting me to meals. They showed me how they wove and dyed material to make clothes for themselves and their children. I used to get magazines sent from England and we'd spend ages looking at them.

Interviewer: I expect you found it very different when you returned to England?

Elizabeth: Yes, I certainly did. After two years of living very simply, I found the supermarkets especially overwhelming - just the enormous choice of food. Also, the traffic disturbed me. I had to move from my flat in the city to a small cottage in the country just to get some of the peace and quiet I'd become accustomed to in Africa.

Interviewer: And what are you working on at the moment?

Elizabeth: Well, I didn't want to just go back to working in someone else's office so I set up my own business, which I run from home. I deal in African furniture. I brought some small pieces back with me as souvenirs and everyone loved them in Britain. However, I'm still in touch with the organisation that sent me to Africa as a volunteer. I organise events to raise funds and give talks about my experience to encourage other people to go.

Interviewer: Has the experience in Africa changed you at all?

Elizabeth: Oh yes, in many ways. I used to spend all my time working, but now I make sure I have more time for gardening - my favourite hobby.

Interviewer: Well, I'd like to thank Elizabeth for coming into the studio today. If you're interested in ...

Section 3:

Transcript:

Interviewer: ... Trina, you're 15 and you've just come back from America where you've been making records. What was it like?

Trina: It was wonderful. I had the six-week school summer holidays and, you know, went over there for a month and then started school again.

Interviewer: What did your classmates at school think?

Trina: I just told close friends what I was doing in the States ... And I thought, well, if the records were successful, then I'd tell everyone ...

Interviewer: And they were successful.

Trina: Right. And my friends were very good about it. Not envious, or anything.

Interviewer: Did you like being in the USA?

Trina: Oh, yes, most of the time it was great - the people are so friendly.

Interviewer: Did you manage to write any songs there?

Trina: Well, yeah, I did. Most of the stuff I'd done in England had been about the people closest to me - you know, Mum, Dad, my sister. They weren't with me in the States, and although I missed them and silly things like the rain in England and fish and chips, being surrounded with new faces gave me lots of material tor my songs.

Interviewer: Now, your home in England is a long way from London.

Trina: Yes, about as far as you can get!

Interviewer: So, is it easy to get into the music business if you live that far away? Don't you have to be in London or near a big city at least?

Trina: No, no. We did play in London once but we were actually approached at a local concert, so I don't think it's impossible to get noticed anywhere. There are lots of record companies looking for bands, and they do go quite a long way from the cities to find them. I was lucky with my band, and there have been other bands like us that've been lucky as well, so you don't have to come from a huge city to be discovered.

Interviewer: Now, in the USA you did a song with someone who was a star when I was your age, David Pearson, and you hadn't any idea who he was?

Trina: No. It was embarrassing, actually. But he was a really pleasant guy. He was recording an album in the same studio, and he had this song that he needed someone to sing with him, and he asked me, and I was only too delighted to do it!

Interviewer: But that wasn't the only famous star you worked with in the States, was it?

Trina: No, there was Lance Lakatoff.

Interviewer: But you had heard of him ...

Trina: Yes. He's a bit of a hero of mine, in fact.

Interviewer: And you were in his TV series?

Trina: Yes

Interviewer: And what was that like?

Trina: It was a really good experience. I hadn't done anything like that before. And they filmed us for three or four days, you know. That was the end of it. Or so I thought! But they had made some mistakes, which was such a shame. Because I had to go back to the USA! I came home to England, and then they phoned up and said they had some bad camera work, etc., and I had to fly all the way back and do it again ...

Interviewer: Actually, in the USA your record did well. But not here in England. Why's that?

Trina: Because you've never been able to get it over here in Britain. The record company's never had any arrangements to sell their records in Britain, so it's always just been the USA, which is nice in a way.

Interviewer: Why do you say that?

Trina: Well, it's good to come home and get away from it.

Interviewer: But is it that the company don't think your style will appeal over here?

Trina: No, it's purely the fact they don't operate over here. But the company's just been sold, and the new company does operate over here, so maybe they will release the record.

Interviewer: So, where do you see your career going? Will you go back to the States?

Trina: Well, not for a while I shouldn't think, as I have another two years at school here in England. I know my school friends are thinking of college but I'm not sure that's for me, even to do music. Then, my agent has been trying to persuade me to do it full time, and my parents say it's up to me, but I'm happy to wait a while before that happens. I can still write, after all - in fact, one of my songs is in the American charts at the moment, but sung by someone else.

Interviewer: Well, the best of luck, Trina, and now ...