



Sample Assessment Listening Transcript

ES3C25 – VTCT (ITEC) Level 3 Certificate in ESOL
International (C2)

1. Sample assessment

1.1. Listening transcripts

Part 1

1. Sorry, I forgot! Can you do me a small favour?
2. Do you know who won the game?
3. Have you gone to the cinema recently?
4. Could you tell me which way it is to the station?
5. How did you both meet?
6. What would you like to do this weekend
7. How long have you had your dog?
8. What is your opinion on the new electric car range?

Part 2

Recording A

Assistant: Hello, can I help you?

Customer: Yes, I wanted to have a new kitchen fitted in my cottage. Do you supply kitchens?

Assistant: Yes we do. Please have a seat and I will show you some brochures. What did you have in mind?

Customer: Thank you. Well there is quite a large kitchen. I would like an integrated dishwasher as well. It has to fit into the space between the French windows and the oven. Here is a plan of the existing kitchen.

Assistant: I see – mmm. That is quite a small space where you want to put all those cupboards. Can the oven be moved?

Customer: No it can't really fit anywhere else and it is fitted to the gas supply there, so it is going to have to stay put.

Assistant: Ok I'm sure we can work something out, everything's possible! Would you like us to supply the white goods: refrigerator, dishwasher... and so on?

Customer: Not everything no! There is a utility room so we do not need to fit in a washing machine in the kitchen.

Assistant: Ok that's fine. What sort of style did you have in mind - traditional or modern?

Customer: Definitely, traditional! It's an old house so I want to preserve the original style and not spoil it with something that will go out of date quickly.

Assistant: Perfect! We have a traditional range with wood worktops. I think oak would suit the traditional look you were after.

- Customer: I'd prefer marble, if possible. I don't like to think of all those trees being cut down.
- Assistant: I am not sure that would be possible as the marble work surfaces are rather heavy for our designs. I'll have to talk to our workshop if that is what you really want; they do come at a premium as well.
- Customer: I'll have a think about that.
- Assistant: Also, what sort of sink would you like? I have these old-fashioned butler sinks, which are very popular at the moment.
- Customer: No thanks – I find they don't drain very well. I'd like a modern double sink.
- Assistant: That is absolutely fine! Ok, let's plan it out on the computer software and I can give you an idea of a price. What's your budget?
- Customer: I don't know – but I'd like to keep it reasonably cheap without it looking too flimsy.
- Assistant: Ha-ha, no, it will be very high quality and look good, do not worry.
- Customer: Splendid!

Recording B

- Interviewer: Welcome to the programme. We have all read about the problem of wild fires in the United States and Australia and the terrible destruction to property and wildlife. However, there are side effects that may not have been considered. What in wildfire smoke is so dangerous?
- Interviewee: Wildfire smoke is a complex mixture of gases and particles that is similar to cigarette smoke but without the nicotine. It has the same kind of mixture of nasty small particles and irritant gases.
- Interviewer: So these must be dangerous – what are the immediate health risks from wildfire smoke?
- Interviewee: Breathing in smoky air can irritate the respiratory tract leading to coughing, sore throats and itchy watery eyes. Polluted air can also cause headaches and fatigue. Smoke also contains fine particle matter which is our primary concern when it comes to health.
- Interviewer: Can we tell how much fine particle matter is in the air?
- Interviewee: That's the problem! These particles are so tiny and difficult to see that even if the air seems clear, people could be inhaling dangerous levels of it into their lungs.
- Interviewer: Exactly what happens when people breathe in wildfire smoke?
- Interviewee: A breath of these microscopic particles can send them all the way to the alveoli, which are the tiny sacks where the lungs and the blood suck oxygen and carbon dioxide. This could cause harm to the

cardiovascular system.

Interviewer: What is known about long term health risks from wildfire smoke?

Interviewee: Not much – but a few studies provide some initial clues. One study examined how wildfires that scorched large areas of Indonesia in 1997 impacted health 10 years later. This population wide study found that males and the elderly were worse off in 2007 for health measures such as lung function.

Interviewer: I see – so we have focused on the most obvious effects while ignoring other issues, there can be serious effects for people for years afterwards, is there anything that can be done to prevent these effects?

Interviewee: Well, the obvious answer is to wear masks, though cloth masks do not do much good! The best course of action is for people to stay indoors with their windows closed and avoid exposure to the smoke.

Part 3

Today we'll be talking about the world's increasing population and focusing on the work of an eighteenth century English thinker, Thomas Malthus. The question of what it means to be overpopulated was asked by Thomas Malthus in 1798. He noted that human population grew at a rapidly increasing rate, while the quality of food grew at a linear rate. An overpopulated world was one where the number of humans was growing faster than the rate at which their lives could be sustained. Ironically, shortly before this work was published, the industrial revolution began to take off in Britain, setting off a lighting fast round of technological developments that made it possible to avoid famine, for example, by shipping food to where it was needed most. Infant mortality began to fall sharply, if not uniformly.

Today, of course, a dense population does not imply poverty as it did in the past. On the contrary, data from Eurostat shows that the Netherlands, which has 128% of the average EU population per square kilometre, Belgium with 117%, and Britain with 105%, have higher standards of living than some other EU countries. It is true the birth rate is increasing in countries such as Britain, however, the number of projected British births is hardly likely to lead to disaster, with fertility rates at 1.6 children per women aged 15 to 44 years. Britain is not even producing the 2.1 children needed to keep the population stable when life expectancy is constant. In fact, the fastest growing segment of the population is those of retirement age. Over time, elderly people will grow to be a larger percentage of the population than they are today. Despite these facts, we cannot ignore the potential danger of overpopulation. A proper policy on population has to include a forward look, so we need to plan for the fact that by the 2040s, England would have overtaken the Netherlands as the most densely populated country in Europe and the UK would have overtaken Germany to become the most populous. However, I disagree that we should fall back on 18th century definition of overpopulation to dispel worries in 2020. Is merely sustaining life really the top priority of government? Should we not consider well-being in its broadest sense to give every one of our citizens the ability to thrive and the space in which to achieve this?