



Intermediate Plus English B1.2+

Listening Transcripts

QUESTION 1- AUDIO 1

Last Saturday, Tom decided to go shopping for a birthday gift for his sister. He first visited a bank branch to check his account balance because he wasn't sure how much he could withdraw. After using the ATM outside, he took out some cash in different denominations.

Next, he went to a small gift shop. At the counter, he debated whether to pay with cash or use his credit card. In the end, he decided to splash out on a beautiful scarf using his card, as it offered interest-free payments for three months.

After that, Tom stopped by a foreign exchange bureau because he plans to travel to Spain next month. He wanted to exchange some pounds for euros, and the cashier explained the current exchange rate. Tom paid attention carefully, so he wouldn't be ripped off.

Finally, Tom headed home and realized he had forgotten his cheque book at the bank. He thought about making a standing order for next month's birthday presents to make sure he didn't overspend. Overall, he was happy with how he managed his money that day.

QUESTION 2- AUDIO 2

Sarah comes from a large extended family. She has two brothers, a half-sister from her father's second marriage, and several cousins on both her mum's and dad's side. Her maternal grandmother often tells stories about Sarah's ancestors, including her great-grandparents who lived in a nearby town.

Last summer, the family held a reunion. Sarah's uncle, along with his spouse, came from another city, and her niece joined with her parents. Sarah noticed that some family members, like a long-lost cousin she had never met, made it a very interesting event.

Despite being a big family, everyone gets on well most of the time. Sarah can always count on her brother-in-law to help out with cooking, and her step-mother is very supportive when it comes to family matters. Occasionally, though, there is bad blood between some relatives due to past disagreements.

Sarah enjoys looking back on the old family photos and telling her goddaughter about stories of past generations. She often spends weekends visiting her father-in-law and mother-in-law, who live nearby. She finds it important to stick together as a family, especially when celebrating birthdays, weddings, or anniversaries.

Even though the family has grown and changed over the years, with divorces, remarriages, and children moving away, Sarah feels lucky to have a close-knit network of relatives she can rely on.

QUESTION 3- AUDIO 3

Space exploration has fascinated humans for centuries. Astronomers use telescopes to observe stars, planets, and distant galaxies, helping us understand the Solar System and beyond. Recently, a new space programme was announced by an international space agency, aiming to send both astronauts and space tourists into orbit.

The mission begins at a spaceport, where the rocket is prepared on the launchpad. After the countdown, the vehicle lifts off and begins its journey into outer space. Scientists monitor the spacecraft remotely, ensuring the navigation system functions properly and that the crew remains safe in their space suits.

During the flight, astronauts conduct several experiments in microgravity, studying everything from plant growth to human physiology in zero gravity. They also observe phenomena such as meteorites entering Earth's atmosphere and can spot comets or shooting stars passing by.

Back on Earth, researchers at the observatory collect and analyze data from the mission. Some of the findings contribute to understanding space debris, while others help improve weather forecasting or the space economy. Occasionally, unusual sightings spark curiosity, like reports of UFOs, though these are often explained scientifically.

After the mission is complete, the spacecraft makes a controlled re-entry, and the crew safely reaches the splashdown point in the ocean. The data collected on board is then used to plan future missions to the Moon or even Mars, continuing humanity's journey through the Universe.

QUESTION 4 - AUDIO 4

Emma and Jack first met at university. Jack immediately had a crush on Emma, but he wasn't sure how to approach her. After a few weeks, they finally went on a date together, discovering they had a lot in common. It felt like love at first sight for both of them, and they quickly became a serious couple.

Over the next year, they celebrated their one-year anniversary, held hands, cuddled, and enjoyed being affectionate in public. They decided to move in together, sharing a flat while balancing their studies and part-time jobs. Friends often joked that they were the perfect match, compatible in personality and hobbies.

Jack eventually decided it was time to propose, and Emma said yes. They had a small engagement party with family and close friends. While they were planning their wedding, they continued to go on dates, keeping their relationship exciting and playful. Occasionally, they went on a double-date with friends, enjoying shared experiences and laughs.

Not all relationships are smooth, however. Emma and Jack sometimes argued about small things like household chores or scheduling conflicts. They learned to communicate, which helped them avoid bigger problems. Despite challenges, they never considered breaking up, showing commitment and trust.

As graduation approached, Emma and Jack reflected on how their relationship had grown. From a simple crush to a loving partnership, they had fallen in love, learned to compromise, and were ready to tie the knot in a few months. Their story highlights how relationships develop through trust, shared experiences, and mutual care.