

Listening A2

Nepal Travel Tips

Part 1: Listen to the dialogue. While listening answer the questions below. **Underline or highlight the correct answer (choose between a, b or c).**

You will hear the recording twice.

You will have 20 seconds at end of the second recording to complete your answers.

You now have 20 seconds to look at the task.

1. Who's Jin?	a. A girl from Nepal. b. A girl who wants to visit Nepal. c. A tourist guide in Nepal.
2. Why does Jin recommend visiting Pokhara?	a. Because it's a very quiet city. b. Because there are many sports to do there. c. Because it's the capital.
3. How can you get to Pokhara?	a. By bus. b. By plane. c. By boat on the lake.
4. Which sports does she mention?	a. Rafting. b. Paragliding. c. Climbing.
5. When is the best time to go there?	a. In February. b. In March. c. During Spring.
6. What else can you find in Pokhara?	a. Restaurants and pubs. b. A lot of mountains, like Mt Everest. c. Nice shops.
7. What is "Holi"?	a. A nice village in Nepal. b. A pub where you can eat and drink. c. A celebration.

Part 2: Listen again. Complete the sentences with the correct word. Choose a word from the box.

You will have 20 seconds at end of the recording to complete your answers.

lasts	good	trip	throw
nice		amazing	hiking

1. Jin says the food in Nepal is _____.
2. The festival _____ one day.
3. It's a six-hour _____ to get to Pokhara.
4. During the festival, they _____ water balloons.
5. Nepal has a lot of mountains, so it's perfect if you like _____.
6. People there are really _____.
7. The nightlife is _____.

Listening A2

Off to Switzerland

Part 1: Listen to the dialogue. While listening answer the questions below. Underline or highlight the correct answer (choose between a, b or c).

You will hear the recording twice.

You will have 20 seconds at end of the second recording to complete your answers.

You now have 20 seconds to look at the task.

8. Who's speaking?	d. Two friends e. Supporters f. Two professional runners
9. What are they talking about?	d. A guided trip e. A run in a city f. A marathon
10. Aiste will go because...	c. she loves the country. d. she has no plans. c. she wants to run too.
11. When do they plan to depart?	c. Early morning. d. Around midnight. c. Early evening.
12. What is special about the marathon?	d. It's on a glacier. e. It's all uphill. f. It's 5000 meters long.
13. ... will run the marathon.	d. Neither one e. Only Aiste. f. Only Christophe.
14. How can you get to the top?	d. By car. e. By train. f. By lift

Part 2: Listen again. Complete the sentences with the correct word. Choose a word from the box.

You will have 20 seconds at end of the recording to complete your answers.

close	interesting	organized	more	prepared
	holiday	get up		

8. Aiste has no plans for this _____.
9. Can you tell me _____ about the marathon?
10. The finish is _____ to a glacier.
11. Christophe _____ three months for this marathon.
12. They should have a funicular to _____ the mountains.
13. They _____ some specials trains for the supporters.
14. It's quite _____.

Listening B1

The right age

Part 1

Listen to Kat and Matthew talking about the right age to do various things in life. While listening complete the table below. Cross true or false for each sentence.

You will hear the recording twice.

You will have 20 seconds at end of the second recording to complete your answers.

You now have 20 seconds to look at the task.

	True	False
1. In Germany, the legal age for driving is 18.		
2. In the United States, you can drive when you are 15 if you have a license.		
3. In Germany, you are not allowed to drink alcohol when you are 16.		
4. In the United States, you can join the army before you are able to drink alcohol.		
5. In Germany and in the United States you can vote when you are 18.		
6. Matt thinks that drinking, driving and voting at the same time make sense.		

Part 2

Listen again. Underline the correct answer.

You will have 20 seconds at the end of the recording to complete the task.

You now have 20 seconds to look at the task.

1. According to Matt, there is a right age for...

- a. *going to war.*
- b. *voting.*
- c. *everything.*

2. What are Kat and Matt speaking about?

- a. *The appropriate age to drive and drink alcohol.*
- b. *The legal age to get married.*
- c. *The appropriate age to start smoking.*

3. What is Kat's point of view on the driving age in America?

- a. *It makes sense.*
- b. *It teaches you to be responsible.*
- c. *16 is too young to drive.*

4. What does Matt feel about the age limits in Germany?

- a. *People get tired of drinking.*
- b. *People are used to drink and drive at the same time.*
- c. *16 is a good age to drink alcohol.*

5. What does Matt think about the drinking age in the United States?

- a. *It's really late.*
- b. *People should be able to drink as soon as they can vote.*
- c. *It's a good age.*

6. Why do Europeans drink at a younger age?

- a. *Because people are more responsible.*
- b. *Because it is not a big thing.*
- c. *Because it's part of tradition.*

7. Matt says that in Japan a normal age to drink alcohol is...

- a. *twenty years old.*
- b. *maybe twenty-one but he's not sure.*
- c. *younger than in Europe.*

Reading Test A2

Skaters in Los Angeles

Monica and Carl are teenagers from Los Angeles in the United States. They both love skateboarding. Read this interview with them and find out more about their favourite sport.

Who invented skateboarding?

Monica: Skateboarding began in California in the 1950s, but we don't know who the first person to go on a skateboard was.

Carl: In the beginning, skateboarding was popular with surfers. They wanted to practise surfing on land when the ocean was calm or the weather was bad.

Where can you go skateboarding?

Monica: There are skate parks in lots of towns and cities. They are special places for skateboarding. You can practise jumps at skate parks and meet other skateboarders.

Carl: You can skateboard in the street too, but you have to look out for the traffic, people, bicycles and dogs.

When did you start skateboarding?

Monica: When I was a child, I liked going roller skating with my friends. When I was thirteen, one of my friends got a skateboard and I tried it. I fell several times but I loved it. Two weeks later, I got my first skateboard. I haven't stopped roller skating. I like both sports now.

Carl: I live in the city and there's a skate park near my house. When I was eleven, my dad gave me a skateboard for my birthday and I spent the summer skateboarding at the skate park. I love the freedom and speed. When I was a child, I rode my bike every day, but I never ride it now.

Is skateboarding dangerous?

Carl: All skateboarders fall off their boards but fortunately most injuries are minor. It's a good idea to wear a helmet to protect your head.

Are there skateboarding competitions?

Monica: Yes, there are. They usually take place in skate parks. Skateboarders do jumps or tricks. The skateboarders who do the most difficult jumps or tricks win.

Carl: There was a campaign to get skateboarding included in the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro but unfortunately it wasn't successful. But who knows? Maybe, skateboarding will be in the 2020 games!

Tell me about "Go Skateboarding Day".

Monica: "Go Skateboarding Day" is on the 21st of June every year. In the United States, Europe and Australia, there are competitions, parties and barbecues for skateboarders.

What about fashion? Is there a skater look?

Carl: At the moment, the fashion is for skateboarders to wear tight jeans or black trousers and a T-shirt or check shirt. Baseball caps and hats are popular too.

Monica: A lot of skateboarders have long hair too. But fashion doesn't matter. For me, enjoying the sport is more important than clothes.

What is a long board?

Monica: A long board is skateboard that's longer and has got bigger wheels. Skateboards are usually 70 to 80 centimeters long, but long boards are 90 to 120 centimeters long. It's difficult to do jumps on a long board, but you can go fast.

Carl: Listen to this! In 2006, a skateboarder went across Australia on a long board. That's 5,850 kilometers!

*Robin Newton*¹

¹ Interview from <https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/study-break/graded-reading/la-skaters-interview-level-1>

A. Look at the interview quickly. Tick the correct description.

The interview is about ____

- a. skateboarding in the USA.
- b. roller skating in a big city.
- c. surfing in Los Angeles.

**B. Match the sentence with the correct name. Cross under the correct name.
(o) is an example.**

Statements	Monica	Carl
0. <i>is a young skater girl.</i>	x	
1. was given a skateboard as a birthday present.		
2. thinks skateboarding is more important than fashion.		
3. wears a helmet when skateboarding.		
4. talks about the advantages of skate parks.		
5. has stopped riding a bike.		
6. thinks skateboarding might be in the 2020 Olympic games.		
7. combines skateboarding with another sport.		
8. started skateboarding after trying a friend's board.		

C. Multiple-choice. Underline the correct sentence.

1. Skateboarding was invented by surfers _____
 - a. *who wanted something to do when the ocean was cold.*
 - b. *who wanted something to do when the ocean was calm.*
 - c. *who wanted something to do with their old roller skates.*

2. Before he had a skateboard, Monica _____
 - a. *used to go roller skating with friends.*
 - b. *used to go surfing in the ocean.*
 - c. *used to watch skateboards at a skate park.*

3. Skateboarders are most likely to injure _____
 - a. *their head.*
 - b. *their legs.*
 - c. *their knees.*

4. In competitions, skateboarders win prizes for _____
 - a. *their speed.*
 - b. *their jumps and tricks.*
 - c. *their clothes and hair.*

5. _____ are fashionable for skateboarders at the moment.
 - a. *Baggy trousers and short hair.*
 - b. *Shorts and tracksuits.*
 - c. *Tight jeans and baseball caps.*

6. Long board are good for _____
 - a. *doing jumps.*
 - b. *going fast.*
 - c. *doing tricks.*

Reading Test B1

Easter Island statues²

How did the Easter Island statues move? Archaeologists are still trying to work out how – and what their story really means.

On a winter night last June, José Antonio Tuki, a 30-year-old artist on Easter Island, sat on Anakena beach and stared at the enormous human statues there – the *moai*. The statues are from four feet tall to 33 feet tall. Some weigh more than 80 tons. They were carved a long time ago, with stone tools, and then they were moved up to 11 miles to the beach. Tuki stares at their faces and he feels a connection. ‘This is something that was produced by my ancestors,’ he says. ‘How did they do it?’

The first Polynesians arrived at Rapa Nui (Easter Island), probably by canoe, hundreds of years ago. The island is 2,150 miles west of South America and 1,300 miles east of its nearest inhabited neighbour, Pitcairn. Nowadays 12 flights arrive every week from Chile, Peru and Tahiti. In 2011, 50,000 tourists – ten times the island’s population – flew to Easter Island. Almost all of the jobs on Easter Island depend on tourism. And the tourists go there for only one thing: the *moai*.

People around the world became curious about the statues after the Norwegian adventurer Thor Heyerdahl made Easter Island famous, and there are different theories about how the statues were moved to the beach. Many researchers think the statues were pulled along the ground using ropes and wood.

Pulitzer Prize winner Jared Diamond has suggested that many people were needed to build and move the *moai*. As a result, the island’s trees were cut down for wood and to create farming land. This open land was fragile and it was soon eroded by the strong winds, so it was very difficult to grow food. The situation was an early example of an ecological disaster, according to Diamond.

On the other hand, archaeologists Terry Hunt of the University of Hawaii and Carl Lipo of California State University Long Beach have a more positive view of the island’s history.

² Article adapted from <https://ngllife.com>

They suggest that the inhabitants actually pioneered a type of sustainable farming – they built thousands of circular stone walls, called *manavai*, and grew food inside them. And their theory about how the *moai* were moved is that they were ‘walked’ along using a system of only ropes and a few people.

As José Tuki contemplates these enormous statues, he doesn’t mind that there are no definite answers about the history of his island. ‘I want to know the truth,’ he says, ‘but maybe knowing everything would take its power away’.

A. Read the text carefully. Cross the best option.

1.	Easter Island ...	is a Polynesian island.	
		is near South America.	
		is also called Rapa Nui.	
1.	José Antonio Tuki...	lives on Easter Island.	
		comes to Easter Island to work as an artist.	
		comes from Easter Island.	
2.	The “moai”...	are statues of stone.	
		are statues of all sizes.	
		were carved by José Antonio Tuki.	
3.	The statues...	can be found everywhere on Easter Island.	
		are only in certain places.	
		have been destroyed.	
4.	Today most people come to Easter Island...	by boat.	
		by canoe.	
		by plane.	
5.	Most archaeologists think the statues were moved...	using ropes.	
		using wood.	
		using ropes and wood.	
6.	Jared Diamond thinks that...	farmers on Easter Island carved the statues.	
		there were environmental problems on the island.	
		farmers had to plant trees on the island.	
7.	Easter Island was...	first discovered by Polynesians.	
		first discovered by a Norwegian, Thor Heyerdahl.	
		is now uninhabited but only visited by tourists.	

B. Give each definition a word from the text.

- 1. Very large in size =
- 2. To look fixedly at something =
- 3. People who carry out scientific research =
- 4. Gradually destroyed by natural agents =
- 5. The activity of growing crops =

Your best friend heard about your plans to travel around the world next year and writes this email. Answer his/her questions. (160 words)



Hi!

What?!? Are you kidding? Are you really going to travel around the world during a whole year? That is crazy and I'm kind of jealous ;-). But I've got a million questions for you.

First, when are you leaving and for how long?

Where will you start from and where will you trip finish at?

What will you visit on the way? Have you already got some ideas?

How will you travel? By train, by plane, by bus?

How long will it take to travel from one country to another?

By the way, will I be able to join you somewhere on the way? That could be fun!

Tell me more about your project and let's meet soon. Before you leave!

Cheers,

xxx