

Bilet nr. 1

Read the text below and answer the questions that follow:

Mrs. Spears, an office cleaner from Chicago, arrived at work one cold, winter morning. The temperature was very low and it was beginning to snow. Hurrying to go inside and get warm, she was surprised to see something large and still outside the office door. She looked closer and was shocked to discover it was a cat frozen to the ground. "It gave me a real fright!" Mrs. Spears realized the cat was alive but unable to move so she wrapped him up in her coat. When the office workers came later, they too put their coats around the cat. Eventually he started to move and opened his eyes. They took him inside the office, put him near a heater, and gave him some warm milk to drink. Now he lives in the office and has a new name, "Lucky".

- 1. What is the text about?**
- 2. What was the cat doing when Mrs. Spears arrived at work?**
- 3. Why is the cat's name Lucky?**
- 4. Do you think pets are toys? Give arguments to support your opinion.**

Instructions for oral examination:

You must read the text carefully, more than once if necessary, to understand both the outline and the details. You may write a few things down as support for your presentation, but remember it is an oral examination so it is important that you speak freely not read!

Question 1. *(Wants to check your overall understanding of the text.)*

Sample answer: The text talks about the founding of a cat, frozen from the cold outside and the way it was helped to survive by Mrs Spears and her colleagues from work by making it warm and feeding it.

Question 2. *(Wants to check your understanding of details from the text.)*

Sample answer: When Mrs Spears arrived at work, the cat was lying in front of the door, more dead than alive, probably hoping to get inside, to some place warm and maybe even to something to eat.

Question 3. *(Requires your interpretation of the event and your making the connection between what happened and the way things turned out.)*

Sample answer: The cat's name is Lucky because it escaped the hands of certain death just because it happened to stop in front of that particular door, and because Mrs Spears didn't pass by without caring and because it was given the needed help in good time.

Question 4. *(Requires your personal opinion.)*

Sample answer: I don't think pets are toys. They are living creatures that most of the times are considered members of the family and good friends that, just like humans, need attention and care. We cannot treat them like objects, put them in one place and leave them unattended. We have to make sure they have enough food and water, we have to play with them, take them out, reward them for the good things they do, teach them patiently and treat them with kindness.

You may further on be asked to talk about your pet(s) if any: name, breed, age, how you feel about them, funny moments etc.

Bilet nr. 2

Read the text below and answer the questions that follow:

It was already late when we set out for the next town, which according to the map was about fifteen miles away on the other side of the hills. There we felt sure that we would find a bed for the night. Darkness fell soon after we left the village, but luckily we met no one as we drove swiftly along the narrow winding road that led to the hills. As we climbed higher, it became colder and the rain began to fall, making it difficult at times to see the road. I asked John, my companion, to drive more slowly.

After we had traveled for about twenty miles, there was still no sign of the town which was marked on the map. We were beginning to get worried. Then, without warning, the car stopped. A quick examination showed that we had run out of petrol. Although we had little food with us, only a few biscuits and some chocolate, we decided to spend the night in the car.

- 1. What is the text about?**
- 2. What did the travelers expect to find in the next town?**
- 3. Why did John ask his companion to drive more slowly?**
- 4. Do you think that the car is the ideal means of transport? Give arguments to support your opinion.**

Instructions for oral examination:

You must read the text carefully, more than once if necessary, to understand both the outline and the details. You may write a few things down as support for your presentation, but remember it is an oral examination so it is important that you speak freely not read!

Question 1. *(Wants to check your overall understanding of the text.)*

Sample answer: The text talks about two people, probably tourists, traveling by car, who seem to lose their way and then run out of petrol, being forced to spend the night in the car in the middle of nowhere.

Question 2. *(Wants to check your understanding of details from the text.)*

Sample answer: The travelers expect to find accommodation in the next town, probably because they have been on the road for a long time and they are tired.

Question 3. *(Requires your interpretation of the input information.)*

Sample answer: The passenger asks his companion to drive more slowly because of the weather and poor visibility and because he is afraid they might miss the town they are looking for.

Question 4. *(Requires your personal opinion.)*

Sample answer: It all depends on a number of factors. Travelling by car is definitely more comfortable than taking the train or bus, because you don't have to worry about a schedule, you don't have to put up with all kinds of behaviour from the other passengers, you don't have to carry your bags to the railway station and back, you can stop whenever you want on the way and you can make your own itinerary. But, if you need to travel really long distances, especially overseas, or get very quickly to another city or country, it is better to travel by plane. Therefore, there are advantages and disadvantages to traveling by various means of transport. A person has to find the right option according to the needs of the trip.

You may further on be asked whether you like traveling, who with, where to, about one of your most interesting trips or where you want to go after the exams are over etc.