

TOEFL LISTENING PRACTICE PAPER

QUESTION: 1

Receptionist Good morning, Sir. How can I help you?

William Hello. Is this Southern Rental Car?

Receptionist Yes, it is.

William I wonder if you could help me. I'm ringing from Nelson, but I'm coming over to Auckland for 12 days and I'd like to hire a car

Receptionist Okay, I'll fill in a booking for you now. First, can I take your name?

William Yes, it's William Waddell.

Receptionist Sorry, could you spell your surname?

William Yes, it's W A D D E L L

Receptionist Thanks. Now, can I have an address and a phone number?

William Sure. I live at 10 Robyn Place. That's R O B Y N Place.

Receptionist And that's Nelson, isn't it?

William That's right. Do you want my home number or my mobile?

Receptionist Home number will be fine.

William OK, it's 07 263 8666.

Receptionist Great. Now, can I also have a credit card number?

William Do I have to pay by credit card?

Receptionist Well, we need to credit card number as a guarantee. It's a standard policy for car rentals.

William OK, well I'll pay by Visa then. The card number is 4550...1392...8309...3221

Receptionist And the expiry date?

William Sorry?

Receptionist Your card – when does it expire?

William Oh, next July.

Receptionist Right. Now, how long did you want the car for? Twelve days did you say?

William No, I only need the car for 10 days, from the 2nd to the 11th of next month.

Receptionist Now, what type of car are you looking to hire?

William Well, I'm not too worried about the model of the car but I understand that you have rental cars from just \$25 a day. Is that correct?

Receptionist We do sometimes have the \$25 deals, but only in the low season. For the period you are looking at, the cheapest we have is \$35. However, that price includes unlimited kilometres.

William Sorry, did you say unlimited kilometres? What does that mean exactly?

Receptionist That means that no matter how far you go, the cost is the same. Some companies charge for rental and then charge again for every kilometre you actually drive.

William Well I am going to be travelling quite long distances – I'm visiting relatives

and they live quite far apart from each other, so unlimited kilometres are probably a good idea.

Receptionist If you're travelling long distances, you would be better off with an automatic. Changing gears in a manual can make it more expensive for petrol.

William OK, I'll take an automatic then.

Receptionist Right, so that's an automatic car for 10 days from the 2nd to the 11th. That's all booked. Is there anything else I can help you with?

William No that's fine. Oh, sorry – what do I need to bring with me when I pick up the car?

Receptionist All you need is your driving licence.

William Right, well thanks very much. Bye.

QUESTIONS 1 – 10

Questions 1-5

Complete the form below.

Write **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

Southern Rental Car – booking

Name: William (1)

Address: 10 (2) Nelson

Contact number: (3) 07

Payment by credit card type: (4) card.

Card No. 4550 1392 8309 3221

Card expiry date: July 20XX

Rental period: (5) days

Questions 6-10

Answer the following questions **USING NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS OR A NUMBER**

6. How much is the car per day?
7. What does the price include?
8. Who will he be visiting?
9. What kind of car does the agent recommend?
10. What does he need to collect the car?

QUESTION: 2

When thinking about beautiful countryside or stunning views, it has long been accepted that Australia and New Zealand have few equals. What is perhaps slightly less well known is what these countries can offer to the avid train enthusiast. Both countries have railways which pass through breathtaking scenery in the utmost of comfort.

In New Zealand you can travel from the country's biggest city, Auckland, to where a third of the population lives, its capital, Wellington, on the longest passenger rail service in the country – the Overlander. Crossing 681 kilometres, the train winds through the lush farmland of the Waikato and up the Rarimu Spiral onto an amazing 'volcanic plateau' surrounded by native bush. On a clear day you will be able to see three of New Zealand's most famous volcanoes – Mount Ruapehu, Mount Ngauruhoe and Mount Tongariro. The whole journey can be completed in 11 hours, but for those keen to see a little more of the country, the trip can be extended over three or four days. This gives travellers the opportunity of seeing the famous Waitomo caves, relaxing in the mud pools of Rotorua, or skydiving over Lake Taupo.

Moving on to the South Island, you can take the Transalpine through the Southern Alps, travelling from the South Pacific Ocean to the Ta an Sea. Climbing from Christchurch right into the alps, this 223 km trip is particularly impressive as the train passes through 16 tunnels before descending to Greymouth at the end of the line. Taking only five hours, this is a relatively short trip, but it is worth noting that this journey has been listed as the sixth most scenic rail route in the world. For those that are not so keen on mountains, the South Island has a second option –the Transcoastal. With the sea on one side and the mountains on the other, it again shows some of the best scenery New Zealand has to offer. Also taking 7ve hours, one of the highlights of this journey is the opportunities for whale watching. The fortunate few that see whales are well rewarded, but there are more common sights which are just as enjoyable, such as penguins and seals.

Although these three train journeys are undeniably breathtaking, some travellers prefer the longer journeys on offer in Australia. The Indian Pacific, for example, which travels from Sydney through to Perth and has been dubbed 'the adventure that spans Australia'. With three nights on board, the train takes in the Blue Mountains and the Nullarbor Plains, and, as the name implies, the Indian Pacific shows you two oceans. This train journey holds two world records: covering 4352 km, it is one of the world's longest train journeys. it also travels the world's longest straight stretch of railway track (478

km). For those who find these distances a little daunting, passengers can stretch their legs at a number of different stops such as Kalgoorlie, famous for gold, and Broken Hill, first founded as a silver mine.

If three days on board a train seems a little excessive, there are alternatives. The Ghan, for example, which travels from Adelaide in the south to Alice Springs in the centre of the continent, taking 20 hours. Passing through Crystal Brook, Port Augusta and Woomera, this journey gives an indication of what life was like for the earlier settlers as they discovered the country. Along the way, you can also see the Iron Man sculpture, which was constructed by railway workers to commemorate the one millionth concrete sleeper laid during construction of the line.

Finally, just a quick word about the Overland, which runs between Melbourne and Adelaide. As the first train to travel between the capitals of two states, it is a historic as well as a relaxing way to travel, and is famous for being the oldest long-distance train journey on the continent.

With so many memorable journeys to choose from, the only problem you will have is knowing which one to do first.

QUESTIONS 11 – 20

Questions 11-15

Complete the tables below. If there is no information given, write X. Write **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

Overlander

Distance / km	(11) <input type="text"/>
Highlight	3 volcanoes
Time / hours	11

Transalpine

Distance / km	223
Highlight	(12) 16 <input type="text"/>
Time / hours	(13) <input type="text"/>

Transcoastal

Distance / km	(14) <input type="text"/>
Highlight	(15) <input type="text"/>
Time / hours	5

Questions 16-20

Complete the summary below **USING NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS OR A NUMBER.**

Taking three days to complete, the (16) is one of the world's longest train journeys. The Ghan is shorter, passing through towns built by the (17) . There is also a sculpture designed to mark the laying of the (18) concrete sleeper. The Overland was the first train to travel between the capital cities in two (19) and it is also the oldest journey of its kind on (20) .

QUESTION: 3

- Mark Hi Lyn. How's your project coming along?
- Lyn Oh, not very well. I've got all the information, but I can't seem to organise it into a presentation.
- Mark Well you'd better hurry. You only have one more week.
- Lyn Yes, that's OK, it's just that...ohh....(sound of desperation)
- Mark Well, why don't you try your presentation on me. Maybe I can help?
- Lyn Really? Great! OK, well I've chosen solar power for my subject, and I'm going to talk specifically about domestic water heating. You know, like the ones popular in America. I've got some facts here...
- Mark That's good, but just start your presentation from the beginning.
- Lyn Oh, right. Here we go then. There are many reasons why we should be looking elsewhere for energy sources. As most people are aware, fossil fuels and other such non-renewable sources are by definition finite, so something needs to be in operation soon. Currently, there are a number of alternative energy sources available which can, with a little preparation, be used to provide for a significant part of our domestic energy requirements. In this presentation I am focusing solar power and its application as a domestic water heater. As a renewable energy source, solar power is in many ways ideal. The amount of the sun's energy which reaches the Earth every minute exceeds the energy that the global population consumes in a year. Although scientists argue that it is not finite, sunlight is certainly a long-lasting resource which is not depleted through use, and solar power converters use this energy without needing any complex moving parts. Once collected and stored, solar energy can be used for many purposes, but it is becoming increasingly popular as a domestic heating source. Generally, a building that is heated by solar power will have its water heated by solar power well, and this has even worked in areas that are not exposed to long hours of as direct sunlight such as the United Kingdom, although not so well as in warmer climates (long pause)
- Mark Why have you stopped?
- Lyn Well, that's all I've got so far.
- Mark Well, start by talking about how effective it is.
- Lyn Oh, OK. Well, there are a number of factors that influence how efficient solar power can be. The first, obviously, is the amount of sunlight, and this is dependent on season, time of day, and climate. Although the UK has something of a bad reputation for sunshine, it is actually quite productive during some parts of the year. Given a sufficient size of solar panel and water storage tank, solar power can provide all of our water-heating

requirements in June and July, and even provide the majority until October. From October to the end of the year this figure December is the least productive, being able to supply less than 5% the average household's hot water requirement. It is at this point that solar power needs to be supplemented with a more traditional form of heating. From January, solar power becomes more effective at a rate of about 20% per month, although this rise decelerates to around 18% by May.
(BREAK)

- Mark Now say something about this water heater Do you have any information about that?
- Lyn Yes, I've got an illustration of a water tank here.
- Mark That's good, but you'll have to describe it.
- Lyn Right. Well, the ideal water tank in the UK has a capacity of 45 to 50 litres, to heat the least 40 litres to be effective. The solar coil is put in the bottom of the tank to heat the water. Now, remember that solar water will not get quite as hot as fossil fuel water heaters. The bottom half of the tank is normally 20 degrees, and this is why it is important not to have a tank that is too large as it would take too much energy to heat. In this illustration, it rises to 40 degrees from halfway up. Don't forget hot rises, so the top third of the tank is the hottest, and reaches an average temperature of 65 degrees.
- Mark And what's this second layer around the tank?
- Lyn Oh that's insulation. Because the tank is often either outside or just under the roof, rigid foam is used as an insulation layer It should be at least so 80mm thick all around.
- Mark That seems like a good presentation. All you need to do is to prepare some short notes and a larger illustration so you can use it as a demonstration and you'll be fine.
- Lyn You think so? Well, thanks very much for the help. Maybe can do the same for you one day.
- Mark Maybe. Anyway, have to go. Good luck!
- Lyn Thanks. Bye.

QUESTIONS 21 – 30

Questions 21-25

Choose the correct letter **A – C**.

21 Lyn is having difficulty completing her project because

- A** she doesn't have enough information.
- B** she can't organise her presentation.
- C** she doesn't have enough time.

Show answer

22 Her presentation is going to focus on

- A** solar power in America.
- B** solar-powered water heaters.
- C** alternative energy technology.

Show answer

23 Why does Lyn think we should be looking for alternative sources of energy?

- A** Fossil fuels are expensive.
- B** Fossil fuels have an impact on the environment.
- C** Fossil fuels are limited.

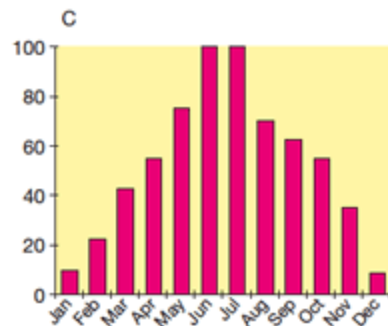
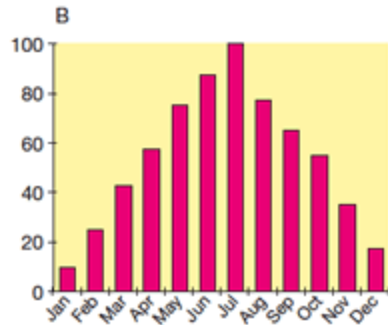
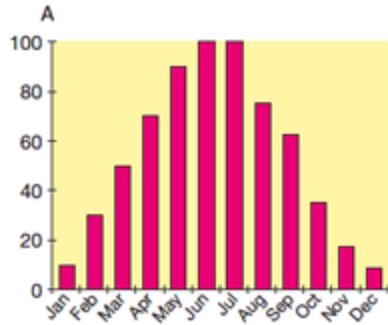
Show answer

24 Solar power is a good form of alternative energy because

- A** it can be harnessed with simple technology
- B** it is infinite
- C** it can be applied equally well in any country.

Show answer

25 Which graph best indicates what Lyn is describing?



Show answer

Questions 26-30

Label the following diagram **USING NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND / OR A NUMBER**

QUESTION: 4

Complete the sentences below using **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS OR A NUMBER**.

Lecture on (31) Show answer

Examples: tourism and (32) Show answer

Common misconception is that marketing points to
(33) in what is being provided. **Show answer**

Marketing is actually essential in maintaining
(34) . **Show answer**

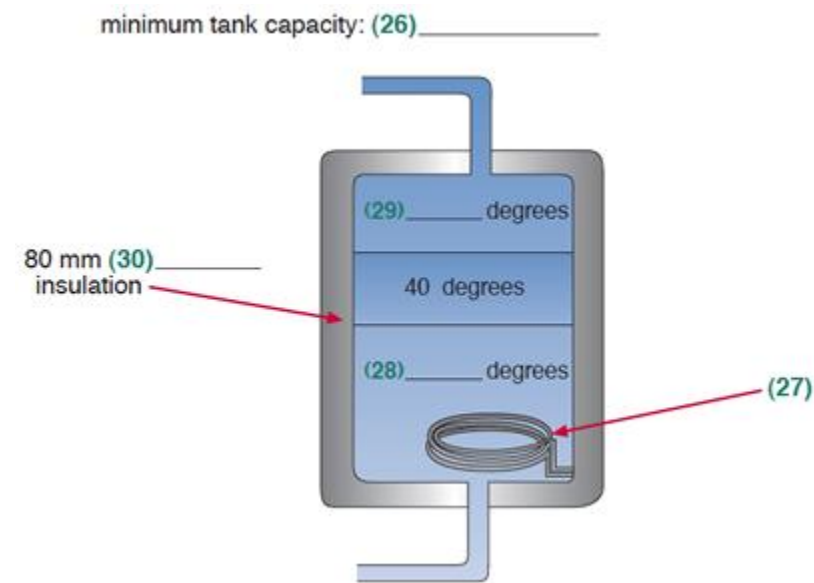
Selling a product is easier because it is (35) **Show answer** and customers do not have such different
(36) . **Show answer**

Aim: offer service beyond hopes of (37) **Show answer**

Important to: (a) keep informed & (b) (38) **Show answer**

One way to achieve this: (39) **Show answer**

(40) must always be available for any queries or problems.



26. **Show answer**

27. **Show answer**

28. **Show answer**

29. Show answer

30. Show answer